This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES
3 3433 06728504 3

KIRBY'S

WONDERFUL

AND

ECCENTRIC MUSEUM;

OR,

MAGAZINE

OF

REMARKABLE CHARACTERS.

INCLUDING ALL THE

CURIOSITIES OF NATURE AND ART,

FROM THE REMOTEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME,

Drawn from every authentic Source.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

NUMEROUS ENGRAVINGS,

CHIEFLY TAKEN FROM RARE AND CURIOUS PRINTS

OR ORIGINAL DRAWINGS.

VOL. IV.

LONDON:

R. S. KIRBY, LONDON HOUSE YARD, ST. PAUL'S.

1820.

Chevalier D'Eon de Beaumon

from the original.

KIRBY'S

WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

MEMOIRS OF THE CHEVALIER D'EON.

ON a survey of all the circumstances of the life of this truly extraordinary character, it is impossible to forbear lamenting the extreme perversity of the human mind, which sometimes impels an individual, for the sake of gratifying a foolish whim, to sacrifice all those advantages which, with the exercise of ordinary prudence, would lead to fortune and honourable distinction. The subject of these memoirs commenced his career with the brightest prospects, but they were soon beclouded by overweening vanity or some still worse passion. He first renounced his country, to which, from his acknowledged talents he might have rendered himself eminently serviceable; he so far forgot what was due to the character of a gentleman, that he found it expedient to renounce his sex also; and at length ended his inglorious days in obscurity and indigence.

In recording the history of the Chevalier D'Eon, who bore through life so equivocal a character, it is a task of no small difficulty to discriminate the true from the false, especially as there is every reason to believe that the latter may have sometimes originated with or been countenanced by himself, in order to serve his particular purposes. We shall at least enjoy the advantage of speaking with an unquestionable knowledge of his sex, which during so large a portion of his life was most studiously concealed; this knowledge will assist us

to judge more correctly of the accuracy of facts, and to develop with greater certainty the motives of actions.

Charles Genevieve Louis Auguste André Timothé D'Eon de Beaumont, Doctor of Civil and Canon Law, Advocate of the Parliament of Paris, and Censor-general for Belles Lettres and History in that city, was born at Tonnerre in Burgundy, Oct. 17, 1727, and descended from a respectable family, many branches of which had held situations of trust under the government of France. Having received an education suitable to his rank, and passed through all the gradations of college with considerable credit, he was called to the bar of the Parliament of Paris; and early in life rendered himself conspicuous in the annals of literature by the publication of several pieces of much celebrity. In 1755 he was introduced by the Prince de Conti to Louis XV. and was employed by that monarch on some important missions. The first mission which introduced him to notice in Europe was of a diplomatic nature to the court of Russia, in the year 1756, when he acted as secretary of embassy to the Marquis de l'Hospital, and conducted himself so much to the satisfaction of the empress Elizabeth, that, on leaving Petersburgh the same year, he was presented with five thousand roubles, and a valuable miniature of her imperial majesty. On this occasion, he was charged by the Empress with a packet for Voltaire, containing presents to induce him to soften the character of Peter the Great in his History of Russia, as well as some papers in manuscript.

On his arrival at Paris he was immediately commissioned to communicate the plan of the Russian military operations against the King of Prussia to the court of Vienna, and when he had performed that task was entrusted by the Count de Broglio with dispatches to the court of France, containing an account of the victory obtained over the Prussians, and of the treaty concluded between Russia and France. The beginning of this journey was unfortunate, for at the mountain

of Melck, in Lower Austria, (two hundred and fifty leagues from Paris) at night, his carriage was overturned, and he had one of the bones of his ankle broken. He stopped no longer than to have it set, continued his route, and reached Versailles thirty-six hours sooner than the courier sent by the court of Vienna; and without alighting from his carriage delivered the dispatches to M. de Ruille, secretary of state. They were immediately taken to Louis XV. who ordered a lodging to be provided for D'Eon, and sent one of his own surgeons to attend him. The accident confined him to his bed for three months, and as his enterprizing disposition impelled him to seek some military appointment, he was on his recovery, presented by his sovereign with a lieutenantcy of dragoons.

It was not long before he received a second appointment to Russia, and on his return to Paris in 1759, being desirous to distinguish himself in his military capacity, he was permitted to join his regiment in Germany, as captain of dragoons, and aid-du-camp to the Count and Marshal de Broglio.

In an engagement at Ultrop, he was twice wounded; and at Ostervich, at the head of some dragoons and hussars, he charged the Prussian battalion of Rhés, which he routed, and took the commander prisoner.

In 1761 he was selected as a proper person to repair once more to Russia, to replace the French ambassador, the Baron de Breteuil; but the death of the Emperor Peter III. having occasioned a change in the politics of that power, the appointment never took place.

In September following, D'Eon went to London, as secretary of embassy to the Duke de Nivernois, who was sent ambassador from France to the court of London, for the purpose of negociating a treaty of peace. In the progress of this business he proved of essential service to his court on the following occasion. The Duke, over zealous in the service of his master, changed several articles, which gave such um-

brage at St. James's, that the Count de Viry, who had a great share in the whole negociation, sent for M. D'Eon, and told him plainly, that, if the Duke did not withdraw his ultimatum, and replace it with that agreed upon between the two courts, he might order his chaise to the door as soon as he pleased, and return to Paris.

Being aware of the consequences, he told the Duke that he would relieve both him and the English ministry from their perplexity. "How is it possible?" said the Duke. "Nothing more plain and easy," replied D'Eon, "I will tell Lord Bute and Lord Egremont, that from zeal to serve my court, I altered some words and phrases in the ultimatum, unknown to you, and that all this difficulty has been entirely owing to me." The Duke, overjoyed at the idea, suffered D'Eon to execute his plan; harmony was immediately restored, and the signature of the preliminaries speedily followed. The Duke de Nivernois had the generosity to give a particular account of the transaction to the King of France and the Duke de Praslin, stating how essentially M. D'Eon had served the cause of France on this occasion. He likewise sent him to Paris with the ratification of the treaty between the British court and that of Versailles; in consequence of which his sovereign invested him with the order of St. Louis. He had behaved in the character of secretary so much to the satisfaction of the Duke, that that nobleman, upon his departure for France, May 25th, 1763, procured D'Eon to be appointed minister plenipotentiary in his room. This high situation he held till the 6th December, when the Count de Guerchy arrived in London, as ambassador from the court of Versailles, and the Chevalier received orders, or rather was requested, to act as a secretary or assistant to the new ambassador. This, it seems, mortified him to such a degree, that, pretending the letter of recal which accompanied it was a forgery, he absolutely refused to deliver it; and thereby drew on himself the censure of his own court. Upon this the

Chevalier, with a view of exculpating himself, or from a motive of revenge, or perhaps both, published a succinct account of all the negociations in which he had been engaged, intitled, "Lettres, Memoires, et Negociations particulieres de Chevalier D'Eon," exposed some secrets of the French court, and rather than spare his enemies, revealed some things greatly to the prejudice of his best friends. Among other persons very freely treated in this publication, was the Count de Guerchy; and it was this treatment that drew on him a prosecution in the Court of King's Bench in July 1764, for a libel on his Excellency of which he was found guilty. It was but natural that this behaviour should draw on D'Eon the resentment of the court of France; or, at least, that he should apprehend it. Whether or not, therefore, that court solicited his being given up, which is very probable, reports were spread, not only that it had done so, but even had, on being refused, sent over persons to kidnap the Chevalier, and carry him off by force or fraud, since it could not come at him by fair means. If the Chevalier himself was not the author of these reports, he at least credited them so far, that he wrote four letters to complain of these designs against him, as known to him by undoubted authority: one to Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, another to the Earl of Bute, a third to Earl Temple, and a fourth to Mr. Pitt. The former he addressed as the supreme interpreter of the laws of the kingdom, in whose equitable hand justice beheld with pleasure the scale of impartiality poised; the second he characterized for his attachment to liberty and his love of justice; the third for the well-known generosity of his disposition; and the latter, as the glory and ornament of his country, the idea of whose excellency was inseparably connected with that of liberty. "I am," says he, "assured from undoubted authority, that my enemies have resolved to carry me off by force or stratagem. London, at this instant, swarms with officers and spies from the police of Paris, with a captain at their head; they keep a boat between

the bridges of London and Westminster, in which, should they unhappily seize my person, they mean to transport me to Gravesend, where a small armed vessel is held in readiness to sail with me to France, the instant I am conveyed on board." He then expatiated on the extremity to which he was reduced, by this daring attack on the national liberty; and justified his right to protection by the most exact conformity to the laws. He next proceeded to ask if self-defence did not authorize him to repel force by force; or in other words, whether he might not, in such circumstances, kill any officer of justice with impunity that should make an attempt upon his person. To procure a sanction for this outrage seemed to be the main end of his four letters, particularly that to Lord Mansfield, in which he thus expressed himself: "I contract no debts, I pay ready money, I endeavour to live in harmony with every body, I carefully avoid every the least infringement of the laws; if the laws then were to appear against my liberty, ought not I to suppose it a pretence used by my enemies to get me into their power; and in this case, does not the law authorize me to repel force by force; and should the most fatal accidents result from such a step, were there laws to condemn me, which I cannot conceive, the spirit of those laws must feel the stroke."

The fallacy of M. D'Eon's reasoning was fully exposed in a publication of the time, which observes: "Let us suppose him under a double prosecution; one for a libel against the French ambassador, for which he may be liable by our laws, either to imprisonment, or to some other punishment which the court may think fit to award; the other by his enemies in France, who may have a design to seize and carry off his person, in order to make him answerable to the laws of his own country; under these apprehensions, his argument is, that he may kill the officer of the King's Bench, if he attempts to seize him legally; because, under pretence of that seizure, he may be secured by the emissaries of France, who are en-

deavouring to seize him illegally, a method of reasoning that will have no weight with an English jury in case of the murder of an innocent man; but the laws of all justify the killing of an assassin, or one hired on purpose to commit a personal violence, whether the person attacked be a stranger or a native."

In March, 1764, a bill of indictment was found against the Count de Guerchy for a conspiracy against the life of the Chevalier; and the process preparing by the latter against him was said to have perplexed the ministry; ambassadors being by the laws of nations exempted from the ordinary forms of law in the countries where they are resident. A house in Scotland-yard was, November 20, 1764, forcibly ransacked in search of D'Eon, and in doing it a door broken open by six persons, some of them well known, in consequence, as they said, of orders from above—a thing not at all improbable, considering into what misdemeanours, it is reasonable to think, the Chevalier's indiscretion and ignorance of our laws might have betrayed him—misdemeanours, perhaps, sufficient to justify even more violent proceedings in searching for and apprehending the person guilty of them. The Chevalier, not having surrendered himself to the Court of King's Bench to receive judgment for the libel of which he had been found guilty, was, June 13, 1765, declared outlawed.

In what manner he behaved, or where he resided for some time after this procedure, we are not informed; but it seems most probable that he retired to his native country, where his sovereign, notwithstanding any public expression of disapprobation, still honoured him with his confidence, as a proof of which he continued in correspondence with D'Eon till his death. Louis likewise gave the Chevalier substantial marks of the sense which he entertained of his services, for which he in 1757 granted him a pension of three thousand livres, in 1760 another of two thousand, and in 1766, a third from his

privy purse of twelve thousand. The warrant for this last was in the following terms:

"Out of gratitude for the services which the Sieur D'Eon has rendered me in Russia, with my armies, and in other commissions which I have given him, I grant him a pension of twelve thousand livres, to be paid to him half yearly, in whatever country he may be, except in time of war with my enemies, and till I think fit to confer on him some post, the salary of which shall exceed the amount of this pension.

"VERSAILLES, "LOUIS."
1st *of April*, 1766."

How the affair of the outlawry ended is not stated, but in 1769 we find him again in this country, and involuntarily brought before the public in an address to the gentlemen, clergy, and freeholders of the county of Devon, delivered and circulated by Dr. Musgrave. As this document relates so particularly to the Chevalier, and appears worth preserving, it shall be given without abridgment, together with the answer of M. D'Eon.

"The sheriff having summoned a meeting of the county in order to consider a petition for redress of grievances, I think it incumbent on me, as a lover of my country in general, to lay before you a transaction, which I apprehend, gives juster grounds of complaint and apprehension than any thing hitherto made public. Having long had reason to imagine that the nation has been cruelly and fatally injured in a way which they little suspect, I have ardently wished for the day, when my imperfect informations shall be superseded by evidence and certainty. That day, I flatter myself, is at last approaching, and that the spirit which now appears among the freeholders will bear down every obstacle that may be thrown in the way of open and impartial enquiry.

"I need not remind you, gentlemen, of the universal indignation and abhorrence, with which the conditions of the

late peace were received by the independent part of the nation. Yet, such is the candid, unsuspecting nature of Englishmen, that even those who condemned the measure, did not attribute to it any worse motive than an unmanly impatience under the burthens of the war, and a blind headlong desire to be relieved from them. They did not conceive that persons of high rank and unbounded wealth could be seduced by gold to betray the interests of their country, and surrender advantages which the lives of so many heroes had been willingly sacrificed to purchase. Such a supposition, unhappily for us, is at present far from incredible. The important secret was disclosed to me in the year 1764, during my residence at Paris. I will not trouble you with a detail of the intermediate steps I took in the affair, which, however, in proper time, I shall most fully and readily discover. It is sufficient to say, on the 10th of May, 1765, by the direction of Dr. Blackstone, I waited on Lord Halifax, then secretary of state, and delivered to him an exact narrative of the intelligence I had received at Paris, with copies of four letters, to and from Lord Hereford. The behaviour of Lord Halifax was polite, but evasive; when I pressed him in a second interview, to enquire into the truth of the charge, he objected to all public steps, that might give alarm, and asked me whether I could point out to him any way of prosecuting the enquiry in secret, and whether in so doing there was any probability of his obtaining positive proof of the fact. I was not so much the dupe of his artifice, as to believe that he had any serious intention of following the clue I had given him, though his discourse plainly pointed that way. It appeared by the sequel, that I had judged right. For, having four days after given a direct and satisfactory answer to both his questions, he then put an end to my solicitations by a peremptory refusal to take any steps whatever in the affair.

" It is here necessary to explain what I mean by enquiring into the truth of the charge. In the summer of the year

1764, an overture had been made to Sir George Younge, Mr. Fitzherbert, and several other members of parliament, in the name of the Chevalier D'Eon, importing that he, the Chevalier, was ready to impeach three persons, two of whom are peers, and members of the privy council, of selling the peace to the French. Of this proposal I was informed at different times, by the two gentlemen above-mentioned. Sir George Younge, in particular, told me, that he understood the charge could be supported by written as well as living evidence. The step that I urged Lord Halifax to take, was, to send for the Chevalier D'Eon, to examine him upon the subject of this overture, to peruse his papers, and then proceed according to the proofs. In such a case, a more decisive evidence than the Chevalier D'Eon could not be wished for. He had the negotiation on the part of the enemy, and was known to have in his possession the dispatches and papers of the Duke de Nivernois. This gentleman, so qualified and so disposed to give light into the affair, did Lord Halifax refuse to examine; whether from an apprehension that the charges could not be made out, or on the contrary, that they could, I leave you, gentlemen, and every impartial reader to judge.

It must not be understood, that I can myself support a charge of corruption against the noble lords named in my information. My complaint is of a different nature, and a different person. I consider the refusal of Lord Halifax as a wilful obstruction of national justice, and for which I wish to see him undergo a suitable punishment. Permit me to observe, gentlemen, that such an obstruction not only gives a temporary impunity to offenders, but tends also to make that impunity perpetual, by destroying or weakening the proofs of their guilt. Evidence of all kinds is a very perishable thing. Living witnesses are exposed to the chance of mortality, and written evidence to the not uncommon casualty of fire. In the present case something more than these ordinary accidents might with good reason be apprehended.

It stands upon record, that the Count de Guerchy had conspired to assassinate the Chevalier D'Eon; neither has this charge hitherto been refuted or answered. This not succeeding, a band of ruffians was hired to kidnap that gentleman, and carry off his papers. Though this second attempt failed, it does not follow that these important papers are still secure. I was informed by Mr. Fitzherbert, so long ago as the 17th of May, 1765, that he had then intelligence of overtures making to the Chevalier D'Eon, the object of which was to get the papers out of his hands in return for a stipulated sum of money. This account I communicated the following day to Lord Halifax, who still persisted in exposing these precious documents to so many complicated hazards. I say precious documents, because, if they should be unfortunately lost, the affair must be for ever involved in uncertainty, an uncertainty, gentlemen, which may be productive of infinite mischiefs to the nation, and cannot tend to the advantage or satisfaction of any but the guilty.

Lord Halifax, in excuse for his refusal, will probably allege, as he did to me, his persuasion that the charge was wholly groundless. I need not observe, how misplaced and frivolous such an allegation is when applied to justify a magistrate for not examining evidence. But I will suppose, for argument's sake, the persons accused to be perfectly innocent. Is it not the interest and wish of every innocent man to have his conduct scrutinized while facts are recent, and truth, of consequence, easy to be distinguished from falsehood? Is there any tenderness in suffering a stain to remain upon characters till it becomes difficult, or even impossible to be wiped out? Will, therefore, these noble persons, if their actions have been upright, will they, I say, thank Lord Halifax for depriving them of an early opportunity of establishing their innocence? Will they not regret and execrate his caution, if the subsequent suppression, or destruction of the evidence, should occur, with other circumstances, to fix on them the

suspicion of guilt? How will Lord Halifax excuse himself to his sovereign for suffering so atrocious a calumny to spread and take root, to the evident hazard of his royal reputation? And what amends will he make to the nation for the heart-burnings and jealousies which are the natural fruit of such procedure? Yet, these, gentlemen, are the least of the mischiefs that may be apprehended from his behaviour, upon the footing of his own plea.

"I will venture, however, to assert, that so far as hitherto appears, the weight of evidence and probability is on the contrary side. Now, supposing the charge to be true, there can be no need of long arguments to convince you of the injury done to the nation by suffering such capital offenders to escape. For what is this but to defraud us of the only compensation we can expect for the loss of so many important territories, a loss rendered still more grievous by the indignity of paying a pension, as we notoriously do, to the foreign ministers who negotiated the ruinous bargain; yet even these considerations are infinitely outweighed by the danger to which the whole nation must be exposed, from the continued operation of so much authority, influence, and favour, to their prejudice, and above all, from a possibility that the supreme government of the kingdom, may, by the regency act, devolve to a person directly and positively accused of high treason. Even the encouragement that such impunity must give to future treasons is enough to fill a thinking mind with the most painful apprehensions. We live in an age not greatly addicted to scruples, when the open avowal of domestic venality seems to lead men by an easy gradation to connections equally mercenary with foreigners and enemies. How then can we expect ill-disposed persons to resist a temptation of this sort when they find that treason may be detected, and proofs of it offered to a magistrate, without producing either punishment or enquiry? The consequence of this may be our living to see a French party, as well as a court

party in parliament, which, should it ever happen, no imagination can sufficiently paint the calamities and horrid state to which our late glorious triumphs might be finally reduced. When I talk of a French party in parliament, I do not speak a mere visionary language unsupported by experience. The history of all ages informs us that France, where other weapons have failed, has constantly had recourse to the less alarming weapons of intrigue and corruption. And how effectual these have sometimes been we have a recent and tragical example in the total enslaving of Corsica.

"I have been thus particular in enumerating the evils that may result from the refusal of Lord Halifax, not from a desire of aggravating that nobleman's offence, but merely to evince the necessity of a speedy enquiry, while there is yet a chance of its not being wholly fruitless. Though the course of my narrative has unavoidably led me to accuse his lordship, accusation is not my object, but enquiry, which cannot be disagreeable to any but those to whom truth itself is disagreeable. In pursuing this point I have hitherto been frustrated, from the very circumstance which ought to have insured my success—the immense importance of the question. It has been apprehended, how justly I know not, that any magistrate, who should commence an enquiry, or any gentleman who should openly move for it, would be deemed responsible for the truth of the charge, and subjected to severe penalties if he could not make it good. This imagination, however, did not deter me, though single and unprotected, from carrying my papers to the speaker, to be laid before the late House of Commons. The speaker was pleased to justify my conduct, by allowing that the affair ought to be enquired into, but refused at the same time, to be instrumental in promoting the enquiry himself. What then remained to be done? What but to wait, though with reluctance and impatience, till a proper opportunity should offer for appealing to the public at large, that is, till the accumulated errors of govern-

ment should awaken a spirit of enquiry too powerful to be resisted or eluded? That this spirit is now reviving, we have a sufficient earnest in the unanimous zeal you have shewn for the appointment of a county meeting. In such a conjuncture, to withhold from you so important a truth, would no longer be prudence—it would be to disgrace my former conduct—it would shew that I had been actuated by some temporary motives, and not by a steady and uniform regard to national good. Indeed, the declared purpose of your meeting is in itself a call to every freeholder to disclose whatever you are concerned to know. I obey this call without hesitation, submitting the prosecution of the affair to your judgment, in full confidence that the result of your deliberations will do honour at the same time to your prudence, candour, and patriotism.

"PLYMOUTH,

"*August* 12, 1769."

This address drew the following letter from the Chevalier to Dr. Musgrave.

"SIR,

"You will permit me to believe that you never knew any more of me than I have the honour of knowing of you; and if in your letter of the 12th of August, you had not made a wrong use of my name, I should not now find myself obliged to enter into a correspondence with you.

"You pretend that, 'in the summer of the year 1764, overtures were made in my name to several members of parliament, importing that I was ready to impeach three persons, two of whom were peers, and members of the privy council, of having sold peace to the French.' And you seem to found thereupon, the evidence of a charge which you say you carried yourself to Lord Halifax. I declare, therefore, here, Sir, that I never made, nor caused to be made any such overture, either in the winter, or the summer of the year 1764,

nor at any other time: I am on one side too faithful to the office I filled, and on the other too zealous a friend to truth.

"I confess you do not say it was I that made these overtures, but only that they were made in my name, particularly to Sir George Younge and Mr. Fitzherbert. I assure you I do not know either of these gentlemen, and never authorized any person whatever to make, in my name, such overtures, which, the abhorrence alone I have for calumny would make me detest. I call upon you, therefore, Sir, to lay before the public the name of the audacious person who has made use of mine to cover his own odious offer. The gentlemen whom you have given as your witnesses cannot deny you this justification of their own veracity and your's.

"Though I cannot but commend your integrity in citing your authors, yet it appears to me an act of the last imprudence, in an affair of so much weight, to build upon report, for naming publicly a person of my character, without having previously consulted him. If you had recollected the contradictions I gave in the St. James's Chronicle, of October 25, 1766, No. 881, to an advertisement in the same paper, No. 875, importing in substance what you allege in your last letter, you had saved me the trouble of replying to you at this time. What must be the result? The public will have read greedily your letter; will have believed its contents, because you appeal therein to my testimony. But what will they think now, when your own interest, and my honour and truth oblige me to deny all that you have advanced therein with respect to me.

"It is the same with your pretence, that, 'about the 17th of May, 1765, Mr. Fitzherbert told you he knew that overtures had been made to me, to sell for a sum of money the papers that were in my hands.'

"I have always flattered myself with being possessed of the esteem and friendship of the English, with whom I have lived. Who of them then, in these sentiments, would have

presumed to have shewn sufficient contempt for me to have made me such an overture? The injury would have been the same, sensibly felt by me, as the character of the person was more respectable.

"I shall not follow you, Sir, either in all the steps you have thought it your duty to take, or in the arguments you make use of to support them; these shew the orator, and those, if they be well founded, prove the patriot. But, I here certify to you, on my word of honour, and in the face of the public, that I cannot be of any sort of use to you, and I never entered into any treaty for the sale of papers, and never, either by myself, or any agent authorized on my part, offered to make appear that the peace had been sold to France. If Lord Halifax, or the Speaker, to whom you say you addressed yourself, in order to call upon me as evidence with respect to the validity of your charge, had caused me to be cited, he might have known by my answers what my thoughts were,—that England rather gave money to France, than France to England, to conclude the last peace,—that the happiness I had in concurring to the great work of peace, has inspired me with sentiments of the justest veneration for the English commissioners who had been employed in it, and with the most lively esteem and sincerest admiration for the late Count de Viry, who, in his attachment to the welfare of the two nations then at war, and, thanks to his indefatigable zeal, had the glory of bringing that peace to a happy conclusion.

"Judge now, Sir, with what solidity you can depend upon me to make your charge clear.

"I am too well known in England, to have been under any necessity of this reply, if the frankness of your letter had not appeared to me to merit my preventing you from taking further steps, which could not but turn to your prejudice, inasmuch as they would be founded solely on false reports of my proceedings.

"In order to enable you to be as prudent as patriotic, I

sign this letter, and therein give you my address, that for the maintenance of your own veracity, you may furnish me with the means of convicting publicly those slanderers who have dared to make use of my name in a manner still more repugnant to real facts than the dignity with which I have ever supported my character.

"I have the honour of being

"Your most humble Servant,

"THE CHEVALIER D'EON."

"*In Petty France,*
"*Westminster.*"

This absolute contradiction of the popular scandal tended to throw discredit on the allegations of the Doctor, who, in the end was reprimanded by the Speaker of the House of Commons as a disturber of the public tranquillity: but, from the known spirit of intrigue which governed the Chevalier, it seems not improbable that there might be a great deal of truth in the statement of Dr. Musgrave, though the nature of the circumstances which it involved precluded the possibility of satisfactory proof.

After this discussion we again lose sight of D'Eon for some years. In May, 1771, as no account could be procured respecting him, notwithstanding the insertion of advertisements in the public papers, a caveat was entered at Doctors Commons against his property. It is not unlikely that, during these temporary absences, either for the purposes of intrigue or concealment, he first adopted that disguise which led to a suspicion of his sex. This point, on his re-appearance, became a topic of public conversation, which produced wagers to a large amount, and a trial which must be considered as not less disgraceful to the Chevalier than to the persons who were brought forward as witnesses. This trial took place July 1, 1777, in the Court of King's Bench, before Lord Mansfield.

The action was brought by Mr. Hayes, surgeon, in Leicester-fields, against Jaques, a broker, and underwriter, for the recovery of seven hundred pounds, the said Mr. Jaques having about six years before received premiums of fifteen guineas per cent. for every one of which he stood engaged to return one hundred guineas, whenever it should be proved that the Chevalier D'Eon was actually a woman.

Mr. Bullet opened the cause as counsel for Mr. Hayes. He stated the fairness of the transaction, and the justifiable nature of the demand, as Mr. Hayes, the plaintiff thought himself now to be in possession of that proof which would determine the sex of the Chevalier D'Eon, and for ever render the case indisputable.

In proof of the fact, Mr. Le Goux, a surgeon, was the first witness called. He gave his testimony to the following effect; "That he had been acquainted with the Chevalier D'Eon from the time when the Duke de Nivernois resided in England, in quality of ambassador from the court of France. That to his certain knowledge the person called the Chevalier D'Eon was a woman." Being closely interrogated by the counsel for the defendant, as to the mode of his acquiring such a degree of certainty relative to the sex of the party, Mr. Le Goux deposed, "That about five years before his professional aid was required by the Chevalier D'Eon, who unfortunately for herself as well as for her sex, laboured at that time under a disorder which rendered an examination of the afflicted part absolutely necessary. That this examination led of course to that discovery of the sex of which he was now enabled to give such satisfactory testimony."

The second witness called on the part of the plaintiff was a Mr. de Morande. He swore, "That so long ago as the 3d day of July, 1774, the Chevalier D'Eon made a free disclosure of her sex to the witness; that she had even proceeded so far as to display her bosom on the occasion; that in consequence of this disclosure of her sex, she, the Chevalier

D'Eon, had exhibited the contents of her female wardrobe, which consisted of saques, petticoats, and other habiliments calculated for feminine use; that on the said 3d day of July, 1774, the witness paid a morning visit to the Chevalier D'Eon, and finding her in bed, accosted her in a style of gallantry, respecting her sex; that so far from being offended with this freedom, the said Chevalier desired the witness to approach nearer to her bed, and permitted him to have manual proof of her being in truth a very woman."

After the counsel on both sides had been heard, Lord Mansfield charged the jury in nearly the following words:

"GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY,

"This is a gambling debt. I wish it were possible to abolish all debts of the kind; I should be glad if your verdict could so operate as that neither party might be the winner; but as one of them must lose, you have only to consider which of them ought to win.

"With respect to the contract on which the action is founded, there is not any thing illegal in it. It is binding on both parties. The discovery of the sex of a certain person is to give it operation. Each party thought himself certain of the fact. There was every external proof that the defendant was right in his conjecture.

"D'Eon dressed as a man; she would have fought duels, she was a captain of dragoons: resided here as an ambassador. To all outward appearance therefore the defendant had the best of the wager.

"On the part of the plaintiff, there was a considerable difficulty; suppose him to be right, yet the proof of the fact was not easy. It was not in the power of any person to compel D'Eon to disclose her sex; was it even known, the proof still rested on the plaintiff. He had so far the disadvantageous side of the question.

"It had been thrown out, that he was sure of the fact at the time he laid the wager. The contrary hath appeared.

He had no proofs in his power at the time the contract was entered into.

"The court of France was not apprised of the fact. That court considered D'Eon as a man. There were reasons afterwards to believe the contrary. When those reasons were made known, that court directed the matter to be thoroughly investigated. Still it might have been difficult to prove the sex, if the private quarrels of the parties had not furnished such collateral evidence as puts the question out of doubt.

"On the part of the defendant there appears to have been a backwardness to bring the cause into court. The indecency was urged; there is nothing indecent in the business. The witnesses have sworn to the fact on their own known knowledge. They are either perjured, or you must credit their testimonies.

"As to the certainty of either of the parties, it hath been well observed, that they both conceived themselves certain of winning. This is the case of all wagers. I remember a dispute which once happened between two persons, relative to the dimensions of a statue of the Venus de Medici. A wager was proposed by one of the parties. The other replied, I will not lay any thing: it would be unfair, for I have measured the statue. The other answered: Why, do you think I would be such a fool as to propose a bet unless I had measured it also? The wager was laid.

"You will consider all the circumstances. If you think that the bet is fairly won, you will decide in favour of the plaintiff."

The jury, without hesitation, gave a verdict for the plaintiff, seven hundred pounds, and forty shillings.

Immense sums on policies depended on this suit, the final result of which however, left the parties in a very different situation from that in which they were placed by the verdict of the jury. The matter was solemnly argued before Lord

Mansfield, when the defendant pleaded a recent act of parliament for non-payment, which was admitted to be binding; so that by this decision all the insurers were deprived of their expected harvest.

After this trial D'Eon relinquished the habit of a man, and assumed female attire, which he continued to wear during the rest of his life. From this procedure, evidently adopted to countenance the gross perjury of the witnesses, it is impossible to doubt that he was deeply implicated in this most disgraceful transaction; although, at his departure from England, in 1777, he declared in the most solemn manner, that he had no interest whatever in the policies respecting his sex. It is easy to believe that the person who could lend himself to so infamous a fraud, would not feel much scruple to assert a falsehood.

On leaving this country D'Eon returned once more to France, where he avowed himself a woman, and was treated as such. Some curious particulars accounting for the original adoption of the masculine character of this supposed female, and describing the awkwardness occasioned by her resumption of the habit of her sex, were soon afterwards circulated at Paris, if not by the Chevalier himself, yet most probably with his approbation. It was stated that "the disguise of Mademoiselle D'Eon," as he was now styled, "and the singular education which she had received, were owing to the caprice of her father, who was ardently desirous of having a boy; and though his wife lay in afterwards of a girl, the father, still attached to his object, cried "no matter for that, I will bring her up as a boy." Her desire of returning to France, induced her, it is said, to own her sex. She has now appeared, it is well known, at Paris, in all companies, dressed like a woman, for the first time in her life, and at the age of forty-nine years.

"D'Eon owns that this garb seems very strange to her, and that it will be long before she is used to it; she would gladly

have continued to dress like a man, if she could; she used at first to laugh at her petticoats, her cap, &c. and on this occasion she said, "It is very hard, having been a captain, to be degraded to a cornet." The spirit of this pun evaporates in English; *cornet*, in French, signifies a woman's head dress, as well as a subaltern of horse. With her new dress, she still however retains the cross of St. Louis.

"The following incident will shew that her manners are far from being prudish. In company with several foreigners, who were strangers to her, "Chevalier," said a lady, "to the best of my remembrance, when you were dressed like a man, you had a very handsome leg." "Parbleu," replied D'Eon with vivacity, pulling up her petticoats, "if you are curious to see it, here it is." "Were I to affirm," added she, "in this company, that I have lain with one hundred thousand men, I should not assert an untruth: I have lain with the French army, with the Austrian army, and even with the Cossacks, but observe, that of all these not one has any thing to say against me." "If you wanted satisfaction," said one, "should not you regret your former situation and your arms." "I have already considered that matter," answered D'Eon, "and when I quitted my hat and sword, I own it gave me some concern, but I said to myself, What signifies it? I may do as much, perhaps, with my slipper?" D'Eon is so little reconciled to her new metamorphosis, that whenever she is in company with any knights of St. Louis, and one of them is called "Mr. Chevalier," D'Eon turns about thinking that she is meant. She is not yet accustomed to the usual ceremonials established between the sexes; or rather it is obvious, that having always in her former state of life shewn great attention to the ladies, she finds it difficult to restrain it; at table when she sits near them, she is always ready to fill their glasses; at coffee, no sooner has a lady emptied her cup, then D'Eon springs from her chair to hand it to the table.

"As to the person and stature of our female hero, Made-

moiselle D'Eon, (for so she must be styled), has a handsome neck and bosom, and appears to advantage as a woman. Indeed as she formerly made herself a beard, her chin is furnished with some hair, which she employs herself with nipping: her complexion is fair, her stature about five feet, four inches; so she could not be very tall in uniform. Those who have not seen her in men's dress, cannot conceive how she could appear genteel in her former clothes; she wears her heels very low, and somewhat large: she has a particular accent which is not unbecoming, as her voice is agreeable; she makes her curtsey in a rustic fashion, without moving her thighs, but bending her knees forward with great quickness.

"On being advised to put on some rouge, her answer was, that she had tried it, but that it would not stick upon her face. Considering her body only as a case, or as the shell of her soul, she despises it, and even pretends sometimes that her neck is troublesome, every thing seems strange to her new accoutrement, but she is convinced that use will reconcile it.

"On her first return to France, she went to Tonnerre, and passed some time with her relations; she then came back to Paris, and though she appeared seldom in public, she dined sometimes with her old friends. To a lady who was giving her some advice with regard to her behaviour, &c. she replied, "Madam, I shall be always chaste, no doubt, but I can never be modest."

To these anecdotes we shall subjoin the following observations which have appeared in the *Gazette de Santé*, a French periodical publication, since the decease of the Chevalier, as more immediately applicable to that period of his life of which we are now treating.

"It is singular enough that while all Europe was making a woman of this dubious character, there existed in Paris many unimpeachable witnesses who would have vouched for

his manhood long before it was put in question. We have had the following details from M. le Baron de Cleybrocke, who has authorized us to publish them. The Chevalier D'Eon received his first education at M. Tarnier's, the schoolmaster, *rue des Nevers*, in Paris; there was in that school, as usher, M. Vicaire, since rector of the University, and previously tutor to the young Cleybrocke, to whom he has often affirmed, when the question was started in London on the sex of the Chevalier, that he had many a time conducted D'Eon to bathe with his other scholars, and was positive that he was a man. What reason then could have induced government to condemn a soldier who had obtained military orders, and a respectable diplomatic character, to assume the dress of a woman, when his boldness, his propensities, his constant habits, his love intrigues, and even his beard and his figure, gave the lie to his dress? Some politicians think that they have found the reason of this strange conduct on the part of government in the means that intriguing character had made use of to succeed in his secret diplomacy, and which were such, they say, that the discovery of his real sex, might have lowered the dignity of the French government, and disturbed the peace, as well as sullied the honour of many families, in which D'Eon had been received with that unbounded confidence which women grant to a woman only. They strengthen their opinion by the report current in Paris when the Chevalier was ordered to assume the female attire, that he had the alternative of obeying, or ending his days in the Bastille, in consequence of the irregularities he had committed under cover of the sex to which he had pretended to belong, to insure the success of his secret diplomatic negotiations. This conjecture is still further confirmed by the testimony of two of his former school-fellows, who, on hearing a report, which they were positive was unfounded, were impelled by curiosity to visit D'Eon. They found him in bed. "What will you have me do?" said he, when they

had explained the object of their visit; "they have ordered me to be a woman, and I wear petticoats by the command of the king."

The Chevalier would certainly have been puzzled to find a more convenient pretext than this for his metamorphosis. The arguments adduced above, under the idea that this metamorphosis was enforced by royal authority, seem totally unfounded; for it does not appear that while D'Eon remained in the French service, either as a diplomatic, or a military character, any suspicion existed of his being a female in disguise. Neither do we find, that previously to the trial in 1777, he ever assumed the dress of a woman: how then could he have been guilty of irregularities under cover of that sex, when he had always appeared in the proper character and habit of his own?

On the other hand, the adoption of the hypothesis that the Chevalier was a party interested in the result of that trial removes every difficulty. He had observed the eagerness of the English to lay wagers on every disputed point, and with a view to profit by this disposition, he entered into a confederacy with the two persons who were brought forward as witnesses, and who, from their names, seem to have both been countrymen of his own. The question started was of such a nature that the decision of it rested with himself alone; but fortunately for the cause of truth, as it turned out, the accomplices were, by means of a legal subterfuge, disappointed of the expected profits of their deception. Nothing would have been more easy for D'Eon, than to disprove the testimony of the witnesses, had he not been a partner in this transaction; but, as such, they would have exposed his share in it, had he revealed their perjury. Thus the preservation of his own character as well as their's, depended on the fidelity with which their secret was kept; and to remove, as far as lay in his power, every cause of suspicion, he assumed the habit of the sex to which he was thought by the world to have been proved to

belong. From all the circumstances of the case, it must at least be allowed that nothing can be more simple or natural than these conclusions.

The preservation of his pension seems to have been D'Eon's motive for retiring to France, in 1777. England was then engaged in a war with her American colonies, and France had indicated an intention of assisting the latter to assert their independence. The Chevalier, we are told, endeavoured, but without success, to dissuade the prime minister, the Count de Vergennes, from interfering in the quarrel. Either some political motive, or a natural restlessness of disposition, and love of active life, next impelled him, in 1779, to equip himself for the purpose of serving on board the fleet; and persisting in this determination, contrary to the peremptory commands of the court, he was apprehended and conveyed to the castle of Dijon. The duration of this confinement, and that of his residence in France, is not ascertained; but it is related that various disputes rendered his longer stay in that country dangerous. He, therefore, again crossed the Channel, and for some years amused the English public with frequent exhibitions of his skill in fencing. Though matched against the Chevalier de St. George, and M. Angelo, who were then considered as the most eminent masters of the art, D'Eon maintained the high reputation which his talents in this line had acquired him. One of these exhibitions, in which he had St. George for his antagonist, took place at Carlton House, April 9, 1787, in the presence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and many of the nobility. An accurate representation of the dress in which he appeared on this and many other similar occasions is given in the engraving.

In the summer of 1790, being about to leave England again, he publicly advertised the sale of his curious and valuable library, manuscripts, and other curiosities, to satisfy his clamorous creditors. It was stated that an English noble-

man had been entrusted with a considerable sum of money from the privy purse of Louis XVI. to enable D'Eon to settle with his creditors, that he had been thrown into great distress in consequence of the death of this nobleman in his way home, and that he had been long at law with his heir for the recovery of the money thus entrusted. The particulars of this transaction are related at length in the preface to the catalogue of his books. The sale began the 5th of May, 1791, at Christie's, in Pall Mall; and besides books, prints, medals, and statues, it consisted of uniforms, fire-arms, sabres, swords; and petticoats, gowns, muslins, silks, jewels, and every other accoutrement that might be worn by a dragoon officer, or a lady of distinction, who, to use his own expression on the occasion, "to pay every one their due, as far as lay in his power, was resolved to take nothing away but his honour, and the regret of leaving England."

This journey was probably undertaken with a view to procure the continuance of the pension granted by Louis XVI. which till about this time is said to have been regularly paid. The petition presented by the Chevalier to the National Assembly, in 1792, was doubtless designed to promote the same object; as it is impossible to suppose he could have expected that Assembly to comply with his desire, and place an old woman, such as he described himself, at the head of its armies. This petition, purporting to be from Madame D'Eon, was read before the National Assembly on the 11th of June, and set forth, that although she had worn the dress of a woman for fifteen years, she had never forgotten that she was formerly a soldier; that, since the revolution she felt her military ardour revive, and demanded, instead of her cap and petticoats, her helmet, her sabre, her horse, and the rank in the army to which her seniority, her services, and her wounds entitled her; and therefore requested permission to raise a legion of volunteers for the service of her country. Unconnected with any party, she had no desire of brandishing her

sword in processions in the streets of Paris, and wished for nothing but actual service; war nobly made, and courageously supported. "In my eager impatience," continued this curious document, "I have sold every thing but my uniform, and the sword I wore in the last war, which I wish again to wear in the present; of my library nothing remains but my shelves, and the manuscripts of Marshal Vauban, which I have preserved as an offering to the National Assembly, for the glory of my country, and the instruction of the brave generals employed in her defence. I have been the sport of nature, of fortune, of war and peace, of men and women, of the malice and intrigue of courts. I have passed successively from the state of a girl to that of a boy; from the state of a man to that of a woman. I have experienced all the odd vicissitudes of human life. Soon I hope, with arms in my hands, I shall fly on the wings of liberty and victory to fight and die for the nation, the law, and the king." This petition was interrupted by repeated bursts of applause, ordered to be honourably mentioned in the minutes, and referred to the military committee: but it seems to have procured for the Chevalier nothing but these unsubstantial honours.

After his last return to England he resided in a most retired manner, partly in a house occupied by Colonel Thornton, on the Surrey side of Westminster bridge, and latterly in Millman Street, Foundling Hospital, at the house of Mrs. Cole, to whose kindness and attention he was indebted for the principal comforts of his latter days. For the last two years he had been in an infirm state of health, and had been attended by the Père Elisée, who, during all that time never suspected him to be a man.

On the night of May 21, 1811, about ten o'clock, he died, and the Père coming next day, ascertained by accident his real sex. Struck with the discovery, he requested some English surgeons to assist next day in opening the body. Accordingly, on the 23d, the body was examined and dissected by Mr. T. Copeland, in the presence of Mr. Adair, Mr.

Wilson, and Le Père Elisée. Lord Yarmouth, Sir Sydney Smith, the Honourable Mr. Lyttelton, and other personages of distinction, were present. The result proved the deceased to have been a perfect male; and the following certificate to that effect was circulated by Mr. Copeland.

"I hereby certify, that I have inspected and dissected the body of the Chevalier D'Eon, in the presence of Mr. Adair, Mr. Wilson, and Le Père Elisée, and have found the male organs in every respect perfectly formed.

(Signed) "T. COPELAND,

"*Golden Square.*" "*Surgeon.*"

Many persons of high rank, and professional men afterwards visited the house, and examined the body. His remains were privately interred in the church of St. Pancras on the 26th. He had made a will, in which Sir Sydney Smith was appointed executor, but it was never signed.

The private life of the Chevalier has always been understood to have been amiable: his natural abilities were great, and his acquirements numerous. He possessed an extensive knowledge of the antient and modern languages: in horsemanship his superior excellence was universally acknowledged; and his skill in fencing was deemed by the best judges to be pre-eminent.

His MSS. and printed books, including the collection of one hundred editions of Horace, originally formed by Dr. Mead, and enlarged by Dr. Douglas, of whose executors it was purchased by the Chevalier, were sold by auction at Christie's, in Pall Mall, on the 19th of February, 1813, by order of the administrator.

REMARKABLE PETRIFACTIONS.

It is a question of considerable importance among naturalists to ascertain the time employed by nature in petrifying bodies of an ordinary size. Leopold I, emperor of Ger-

many, was desirous that some steps should be taken for deciding this question. The Chevalier de Baillu, director of his cabinet of natural history, and some other naturalists conceived the idea of making researches which might throw some light on the subject. As modern geographers and historians agree in stating that certain pillars seen in the Danube, in Servia, near Belgrade, are the remains of the bridge which Trajan constructed over that river, it was presumed that these pillars, having been preserved for so many ages, must be petrified, and that they would furnish some information respecting the time which nature employs in changing wood into stone. The emperor wishing to satisfy his curiosity, ordered his ambassador at the court of Constantinople to ask permission to take up from the Danube one of the pillars of Trajan's bridge. It was granted, and one of the pillars was accordingly taken up, from which it appeared that the petrifaction had advanced no farther than three quarters of an inch in the space of fifteen hundred years.

[*Encyclop. Brit.* vol xvi. p. 239.

There are, however, certain waters in which this transmutation is more speedily accomplished. A letter, dated Kircaldy, December, 1759, and inserted in the Scots Magazine, gives the remarks made, in 1750, by a Scotch gentleman on the petrifying quality of the sea-water on the coast of France, Being at Boulogne, during the summer of the last mentioned year, he observed that the British Channel, which washes the bottom of a hill near that place, (commonly called Cæsar's Fort, from a Roman encampment still visible on it, said to have been constructed by Julius Cæsar when he invaded Britain,) had worn in through a great part of the hill, which consists mostly of mixed sand, with about three or four feet of a strong blueish clay soil above. As the sandy part is washed away, the clay falls down in large masses, and, as the inhabitants there affirm, is petrified by the salt water. In

fact one sees, about forty or fifty yards within the present high water mark, a large stratum of rocks, much resembling the black rocks at Leith; and between these and the hill many huge masses of rock, though there appears nothing rocky on the bare side of the hill next the channel. And the inhabitants of Boulogne are every day seen blowing up these rocky masses with gunpowder, burning the stones into lime, and using them also as stones for their buildings. This gentleman, walking one day on the sands, saw a large lump of clay fallen from the hill, and so lying as to be washed by the tide. He impressed a mark on it with his stick, which being soft, it then easily received. But passing the same way about three weeks afterwards, he could not force his stick into the same lump. Though this single instance, joined to the constant affirmation of the inhabitants, convinced him that the clay was capable of petrifaction by the washing of the tide, it would, perhaps, be too rash to affirm that, in all instances, any thing like petrifaction can be so quickly observable.

A truly extraordinary instance of the rapidity of this process is, however, exhibited in the following account.

Early in the year 1809, a remarkably fine bull, belonging to J. T. Sandermans, Esq. of Stokely Hall, near Truro, was lost, and every method was tried to find it, without success. On the 29th of September, 1811, Mr. S.'s steward having received directions to examine a coal pit which had not been worked for several years, on account of a spring having issued from an elevated part of the mine, went thither with some assistants; and having descended to the bottom of the pit, found that the water had nearly gone away; and on further prosecuting their search, perceived, to their inexpressible astonishment, the very bull which had been so long lost, standing as in the act of drinking; nor did their astonishment in the least abate, on discovering that the beast had be-

come a most striking instance of petrifaction, every feature and muscle being as perfect as when he was living, except that the hair on his hide was changed into a beautiful mossy substance, which still retained the original colour of the animal, and extended in curls all over it, in a manner not to be described. Mr. Sandermans has made several attempts to remove the bull, but he has now given up the idea, as the moss is of so brittle a nature as to break with the slightest touch. Several noblemen and gentlemen have already visited this phenomenon, and have borne testimony to the wonderful effects of nature exemplified in this animal.

The News, Nov. 10, 1811.

Human bodies have frequently been found in the same predicament.—A curious discovery of this kind was made about the end of January, 1760, near the city of Aix, in Provence. A mass of rock so obstructed the cultivation of a vineyard about one hundred yards from the city wall, that the owner was advised to have it removed in part, by means of gunpowder. Some labourers were accordingly set to perform this service, and, to their no al surprise, found, about six feet deep in the rock, petrified human bodies, that adhered to it in such a manner, as to form, as it were, part of the mass. The bodies stood upright, and about a foot and a half asunder. Six heads and several limbs were taken out whole and entire. One of the heads projected further from the stone than the others, only the brain-pans of which just appeared, the remainder being buried and consolidated in the rock, which it was feared it would be impossible to disengage them from, satisfactorily and with any tool or instrument, since no partition or separation was perceptible betwixt the real heads and the encircling stone, (equal to the hardest marble) which, like a mask, disguised the features; those of the other heads were very visible, they all looked towards

the west. Besides these, several shin and thigh-bones were also got out whole, equally petrified. On some of them was a brownish kind of skin, which on scratching crumbled like hard plaster, and shewed the bony parts in their original whiteness; the marrow was crystallized. Several sharp, but crooked teeth, from two to five inches long, were likewise found, thought to have belonged to marine animals.

The opening hitherto made, continues the account, measures but twenty feet in width, and ten in depth; and as numbers are daily crowding from this city, (Aix) and other places, to view these curiosities, all further progress is postponed for a time; but it is the generally received opinion, that more discoveries will be made, when they go to work anew, though the utmost care will be necessary to get out entire what may be met with, as the rock, which spreads itself a great way under the land, is so very hard a substance. Thus an ample field for speculation and conjecture is opened for the naturalist and virtuosi.

Ann. Reg. 1760, p. 78.

When the foundations of the city of Quebec, in Canada, where dug up, a petrified savage was found among the last beds to which the workmen proceeded. Although it was impossible to form any judgment of the time at which this man had been buried under the ruins, yet his quiver and arrows were in good preservation.

In digging a lead mine in Derbyshire, in 1744, a human skeleton was found among stag's horns. It was impossible to say how many ages this carcase had lain there.

In 1695, the entire skeleton of an elephant was dug up in Thuringia, in Germany; and some time before, the petrified skeleton of a crocodile was found in the mines of that country.

About the beginning of the last century the curate of Slægarp, in the Swedish province of Schonen, and several of his parishioners, digging turf in a drained marshy soil, found

than in a dirty drab-coloured coat, black breeches, a very small cocked hat, and black stock, with his hair tied in a queue; a cane in one hand, and the other invariably placed within the bosom of his coat. This dress, from which he never deviated, so far from according with the rank of the wearer, seemed to bespeak the pressure of poverty, and this inference was confirmed in the mind of every observer by the appearance of his person, which was tall and very slender. All these circumstances together gave to his figure a character truly grotesque, which is faithfully preserved in the annexed portrait.

His daily perambulations were as invariable as his dress. He never failed to walk up one side of Piccadilly, through Hyde Park, along the wall of Kensington Gardens, and return by the other side of Piccadilly, without stopping or speaking to any person. In the same solemn melancholy pace he would traverse the Strand, Fleet Street, St. Paul's Church yard, and proceed to the Bank, where he would walk about without taking notice of any one, and then return the same way that he had come. For upwards of twenty years he continued this practice without the least alteration; and notwithstanding the enquiries occasioned by the singularity of his appearance, as he was never seen in company, or speaking with any person, his real name and character remained enveloped in profound mystery, so that he was generally known by no other appellation than the *Walking Rushlight*.

The singularities of General Reid were probably the offspring of parsimony, a quality which has generally been considered as a distinguishing trait in the character of the natives of the northern division of our island; but it was certainly carried by him beyond what the world would deem compatible with his station in life. The fruits of his economy must have been considerable, though the amount cannot be ascertained.

In his will, which bears evident marks of the same eccen-

tricity which distinguished his habits and manners, he describes himself as General John Reid, formerly of Woodstock Street, but for the last six years of the Haymarket. He farther says, that he was first a lieutenant in a regiment raised in 1745, by the Earl of Loudoun, and that he was the last male heir of a very ancient family, which would be extinct at his death.

By this instrument he left the interest of his property to his only daughter, Mrs. Susan Robertson, for her life, upon the express condition that it should be paid into her hands only, and not to any person whom she might appoint to receive it: after her, to descend to her children, who must, if any survive, within six months after they attain the age of twenty-one, take the surname of Reid, and use all armorial bearings, &c. of the family. Should they fail to do this, or refuse to comply, the property is then to go away from them, and he points out the manner in which it is to be disposed of. He left his servant, William Arden, if he should continue to live with him till his death, thirty guineas, besides his wages of forty pounds, which he states he always paid on the 1st of January. To his other servant he left a chart of land, his property, in New England, in America, which was taken from him by an armed banditti, in the American war, "so badly conducted." To Governor Franklin he bequeathed two small busts, in oval frames, of General Melville and himself. His wearing apparel he left to another gentleman. To the university of Edinburgh, where he received his education, he left all his music; and property to found a new professorship of music, with an annual support for the professor. He also directed, that out of the general funds left by him, the university should cause a concert of music to be performed annually, on the 13th of February, (being his birth-day,) at which must be performed one solo for the German flute, clarinet, or hautboy; one march; and one minuet, with accompaniments, by a select band, to shew the taste of music

in the last century, when they were by him composed. The expense of this concert is to be defrayed out of the general fund, and not out of the professor's salary; "for he made a rule never to be in debt to any man." He also directed that the amount of his property might not be made public when he died; and requested that he might be buried in the vault under St. Margaret's church, Westminster, near a very intimate medical friend, who attended him many years. At first he charges his executors with the payment of the interest of his property to his daughter, but afterwards transfers the office to Mr. Coutts the banker.

ACCOUNT OF SOME REMARKABLE CIRCUMSTANCES OF DISEASE.

Animals generated in the Human Body.

AUGUST 16, 1760, Mr. Thomas Clap, of Newhaven, gives the following account of living animals found in the skin of a child, belonging to Mr. Moses Beecher, of the same place.

It had a cutaneous eruption, resembling the chicken pox; the pustules became very protuberant, near as big as a duck shot, the head being dark coloured, and the rest yellowish. Upon opening some of the pustules, there appeared to be a great number of animals in them, which were scarce discernible to the naked eye, but seen to be animals by their swift motion in crawling. One of them was brought to the college, and being viewed in the microscope, it appeared to be a perfect tortoise, or turtle, with upper and lower shells, each divided into about ten partitions, which were beautifully coloured, red, yellow, and white. The head, tail, and legs appeared very distinct; but the eyes did not grow in the head, but as it were out of the shoulders, and stood upon two pillars, very much resembling those of a lobster. The eye ap-

peared like little globes of glass, were immoveable, and had no eye-lids.

Ann. Reg. 1760, p. 148.

Ossification of the Tendons and Muscles.

The following account of the case of William Carey, aged 19, whose tendons and muscles turned to bone, is given in a letter from the Rev. William Henry, to Lord Cadogan, dated March 1, 1759, Castle Caldwell, near Inniskillen.

He was born in an island in Lough Melvil, a large lake in the northern point of the county of Leitrim, in Ireland, and has continued therein, or in the adjacent lands, ever since.

He was bred up to work as a labourer, and continued in very good health, from his birth, until two years ago. About that time he first felt an unusual pain in his right wrist, which in August, 1757, began to swell; this obliged him to cease from his usual labour. In the space of a month more, this swelling grew into a hardness, like to a bony substance, and continually shooting on, in December reached up as far as the elbow; all the muscles continually growing into a bony substance, and dilating, so that his wrist and arm are as thick and broad as in the beginning. About the space of a week after the pain began in his right wrist, he was seized with the like pain in his left wrist; this has proceeded, in all respects, in the same manner as in the right arm. The whole substance of each arm, from the elbow down to the wrist, feels as it were one solid bone.

The ossification is shooting downwards into the fingers, and upwards into the elbows, so as already to prevent the bending the fingers or elbow of the left arm; it has likewise shot upwards, so as to seize the great muscles of each arm, between the elbow and shoulders.

The continual pain and dilation of the arms occasioned a bursting of the skin, and fleshy parts about each elbow, in November 1757, out of which oozed a thin yellowish humour,

with a little digested pus. Some of these breaches have healed up of themselves; one small orifice in each elbow continues to run.

In March, 1758, he was seized with the like pain and swelling in his right ancle, where such another bony substance soon grew as in his arms. This bony substance has shot up from his ancle, both in the inward and outward side of the right leg, half way up to the knee; and the like bony substance has, in the inward side, shot down from the pan of the knee, eight inches along the shin bone, and is daily increasing; so that he walks with much pain and difficulty, and after resting in his walk grows very lame. The person is of a very thin habit of body, and is in size five feet nine inches; somewhat inclined to an hectic, though he has no cough.

The above-mentioned William Carey was inspected and closely examined, as to all the above particulars, at Castle Caldwell, in the county of Fermanagh, the 1st day of March, 1759, by us

SHELBURNE.
JAMES CALDWELL.
WILLIAM HENRY.

This is exactly my case,
WILLIAM CAREY.

The Rev. William Henry sends a further account to Lord Cadogan, since the above, signed by him, and dated Dublin, May 24, 1759.

MY LORD,

I have now standing by me, William Carey, the young man, of the ossification of whose limbs I had the honour, formerly, to acquaint your Lordship; and now, in obedience to your commands, give an account of the case since that time.

I had sent him in March last to Mercer's Hospital in this city. After examining his case, the physicians and surgeons concluded, that the only probable chance to prevent the progress of the ossification, and to remove the evil already ef-

fected, was, putting him into a mercurial course. This they tried; and, after some slighter mercurial medicines, they, in the latter end of April, laid him down in a salivation, through which he passed with safety.

This dried up the running sores at his elbows, occasioned by the bursting of the skin, through the ossification. Some lighter callus, which was shooting into bones, seems to be softened; in consequence of which he can move his elbows and the joints of his fingers with more ease; and he has a little more clearness and vivacity in his countenance: but none of the ossified parts are reduced, nor is there any appearance of their reduction; and he still continues to wear an hectic look. To reduce the ossified parts, they have applied to them mercurial plasters; the effects of which time will shew.

As he is now discharged out of the hospital, they have directed him to bathe continually in the ocean, which happens to be very convenient to his habitation, and have directed him to anoint his limbs with soapy juice of the quercus marina, which lies in plenty along the shore. I shall attend to the event of this process, and send your Lordship a particular account of it.

Phil. Trans. vol. li. p. 89—92.

Mortification.

The following particulars of a family at Wattlisham, who lost their limbs, were published by Dr. Wollaston, of Bury, in Suffolk.

John Downing a poor labouring man, lived at Wattisham, in January, 1762, with a wife and six children, the eldest, a girl fifteen years of age, the youngest about four months. They were all at that time very healthy, and had not any of them been ill for some time before.

On Sunday, the 10th of January, 1762, the eldest girl complained in the morning of a pain in her left leg, particularly in the calf of the leg. Towards evening the pain grew exceedingly violent. The same evening another girl com-

plained of the same violent pain in the same leg. On Monday, the mother and another child; and on Tuesday all the rest of the family were affected in the same manner; some in one leg, some in both legs. The little infant was taken from the mother's breast; it seemed to be in pain, but the limbs did not mortify; it lived a few weeks. The mother, and the other five children, continued in violent pain a considerable time. In about four, five, or six days, the diseased leg began to turn black, gradually; appeared at first covered with blue spots, as if it had been bruised. The other leg of those who were affected at first only in one leg, about that time, also, began to be affected with the same excruciating pain, and in a few days that leg also began to mortify. The mortified parts separated gradually from the sound parts; and the surgeon had, in most of the cases, no other trouble than to cut through the bone, which was black and almost dry. The state of their limbs stands thus:

Mary, the mother, aged forty, has lost the right foot at the ancle; the left foot is also off, and the two bones of the leg remain almost dry, with only some little putrid flesh adhering in some places. The flesh is sound to about two inches below the knee. The bones would have been sawn through that place if she would have consented to it.

Mary, aged fifteen, both legs off below the knee.

Elizabeth, aged thirteen, both legs off below the knee.

Sarah, aged ten, one foot off at the ancle. The other foot was affected, but got sound again.

Robert, aged eight, both legs off below the knee.

Edward, aged four, both feet off.

The infant, four months' old, dead.

The father was attacked about a fortnight after the rest, but in a slight degree, the pain being confined to his fingers. Two fingers on the right hand continued for a long time discoloured, and partly shrunk and contracted; but he begins

now to have some use of them; the nails of the other hand were also discoloured; he lost two of them.

It is remarkable, that during all the time of this misfortune, the whole family are said to have appeared, in other respects well, ate heartily, and slept well, when the violence of the pain began to abate. The mother is now emaciated, and has very little use of her hands. The eldest girl has a superficial ulcer in one thigh, and seems also ill. The rest of the family are pretty well. The stumps of some of them perfectly healed.

Ann. Reg. Nat. Hist. 1762, p. 67.

A circumstantial and authentic account of mortification is contained in a letter from William Dallaway, Esq. high sheriff of Gloucestershire. It is as follows:

February 20, 1766, Richard Parsons, and three other persons, met at a private house in Chalford, in order to play at cards. Though only nineteen years of age, he was very guilty of swearing, and using bad language. A dispute arising while thus engaged, he wished that his flesh might rot upon his bones, and frequently repeated this expression, with many others equally shocking. The party continued to play to a very late hour; and before they broke up Parsons felt a pain in his leg, and complained of it to his partner, of the name of Rolles. From that time it increased, and he went to Minchinhampton, to get advice of Mr. Pegler, a surgeon, who found that a mortification had taken place. All possible means were taken to prevent its spreading, but nothing could save him: it flew from his legs to various parts, viz. under his eyes, and the tops of his shoulders, and on one hand; and he died in twelve hours after it so spread, on the 4th of March in the morning, a most shocking spectacle.

Ann. Reg. 1766, p. 191.

A SINGULAR PHENOMENON.

JUNE 27, 1759, a vein was discovered exceedingly rich, in the Asphaltum mine, called the sand pit, in Lower Saxony. The joy it occasioned was, however, but of short duration; for the very next day this vein was found to be interrupted by a rock, which the workmen were obliged to bore. This took them up till the 27th of July, having in that time pierced, with incredible labour, about forty-four feet, The same day, between nine and ten at night, the workmen gave notice that they had discovered a spring, which cast forth water and a greasy liquid, in such abundance, that in less than a quarter of an hour, the gallery four feet broad, and six high, and one hundred and fifty long, was filled with it some feet deep. Upon going down this was found to be the fact; and the master miner happening to bring a light within about half a foot of the aperture, the waters took fire, and cast up flames of various colours. About midnight the waters kindled of themselves, and flashes of lightning were driven through the gallery. A hurricane succeeded, with a hollow noise, which seemed to forebode something of an extraordinary nature. Two workmen at the end of the gallery were struck down, and their hair burnt; they were so terrified that they made the best of their way out of the pit; and others supplied their place. Thunder and lightning were heard and seen several times; and about five in the morning all the labourers agreed, that it was no longer safe to continue there, and resolved to retire. They were scarce got to the middle of the gallery before they saw the whole in a blaze, with such a clap of thunder as was heard half a league off; the violence of it shattered the tiling of a shed; several wheelbarrows were thrown almost the length of the gallery by it, and staved to pieces, as were likewise many of the air pipes. Four of the workmen were miserably hurt, and two of them had the skin stripped from their faces. When the thunder and lightning

was over, the master miner ventured down to the entrance of the gallery, and could see nothing, but heard a noise, which lasted for some time, and a scent of sulphur and saltpetre continued for several hours, which changed to an insupportable stench. The waters abated by degrees, but continued to the last to take fire, if a lamp was brought near the surface, though the flame might be easily extinguished by the fanning of a hat.

Ann. Reg. 1759, p. 386.

LIFE AND TRIAL OF RICHARD PATCH.

NEVER, perhaps, was a stronger interest excited in the minds of persons of all classes, than by the case detailed in the following pages. It affords another awful example, in addition to the many that might be produced, of the little chance which the murderer has to escape detection, with what art soever the horrid crime may have been planned and carried into execution. The aggravated circumstances under which it was, in this instance, committed seem to authorize us to consider it as a peculiar dispensation of Providence, that the chain of evidence, though only circumstantial, should be so strong, so complete, and so convincing, as to leave not a shadow of doubt respecting the guilt of the accused.

Richard Patch was born about the year 1765, at Heavitree, near Exeter, in Devonshire. His family was of some respectability among the yeomen of that county, his grandfather having possessed a landed estate of 50*l.* per annum, in a neighbouring village. His father, like many of the petty farmers residing near the sea coast, united with his agricultural avocations the character of a smuggler, and was distinguished for the dexterity and courage with which he eluded or baffled

the officers of the excise. As nothing can be more precarious than the success of persons engaged in this illegitimate pursuit, so the good fortune of the father of Richard Patch at length forsook him; he was apprehended, condemned in heavy penalties, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in the new goal at Exeter. At the expiration of his confinement he did not quit the prison, where he accepted the situation of turnkey. In this office he died, leaving several children, the eldest of whom was the unhappy subject of this narrative.

Richard Patch, who seems to have received but little education, was bound apprentice to a butcher at Ebmere, a village notorious for the depravity and immorality of its inhabitants. The liberality with which his father supplied him in early youth with money, is said to have produced a disposition to indolence, riot, and dissipation. On the death of his father the estate already mentioned, descended to Patch, who now quitted his trade and commenced farmer, uniting with his patrimony a small farm which he rented. Thus situated, he passed some years, till a quarrel with the rector of the parish, and a refusal on his part to pay tythes, involved him in a lawsuit, and an action in the court of exchequer. Alarmed at the consequences which must inevitably have followed, he quitted his native county in the spring of 1803, and repaired to London.

At this period his sister lived in the service of Mr. Blight, ship-broker, of Rotherhithe, with whom also a brother, who had been bred a baker, was engaged as a kind of overseer or superintendant. To these relatives, as was natural, his first visit was paid on his arrival in the metropolis, and it was probably their good conduct that procured him admittance into the service of the same master. He had not been long settled in it before his brother quitted Mr. Blight; he had been disappointed in an attempt to set up for himself in the business to which he had been brought up; and this mortifica-

tion, perhaps, aggravated by the indiscretion of his brother Richard, filled him with such disgust that he went to sea, and sailed to the West Indies, where he soon fell a victim to the yellow fever.

All the subsequent circumstances of the life of this unhappy man, as far as they are known, may be collected from his trial for the murder of Mr. Blight, which took place on the 5th of April, 1806, at the Sessions House, Horsemonger Lane, Southwark, by adjournment, from the assizes at Kingston, where it should in the regular course have been held.

The prisoner was conducted into the court soon after nine o'clock, and at ten Lord Chief Baron Macdonald, took his seat on the bench. The indictment charged the prisoner with having, on the 23d of September, 1805, in the parish of St. Mary, Rotherhithe, made an assault on Isaac Blight, with a pistol and leaden bullet, and inflicted a mortal wound therewith, on his right side, of which he lingered till the 24th, and then died. To this indictment he pleaded *not guilty;* on which the gentlemen of the jury were sworn. Mr. Garrow, as counsel for the crown, entered into a long statement of the circumstances of this interesting case, on the part of the prosecution. After the witnesses had been examined, the prisoner was called upon for his defence: he produced a written paper, which was read by the officer of the court, as follows:

"MY LORD,

"Your Lordship will permit me, in the outset of my defence, to express my gratitude for the exertions which you have used, in order to protect an obscure and most unfortunate man from the consequences of those numerous and unjustifiable prejudices that have been raised against him.—Whatever be the event of this prosecution, it must afford the public the highest satisfaction to hear, from your Lordship's conduct on this occasion, how anxious one of the first of

their judges is to secure to those who stand accused before him a fair and impartial trial.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY,

"I could not enter upon my defence without expressing my acknowledgments to his Lordship, for causing you to be summoned to this place, to decide upon my guilt or innocence, instead of suffering me to be tried by the gentlemen impannelled during the assizes at Kingston for that purpose; for however unprejudiced twelve gentlemen on a jury may endeavour to keep their minds, every man is taught by his experience, as well as his feelings, how extremely difficult it is to separate the account of the transaction laid before him in evidence, from that which he has heard from common report. Gentlemen, I trust, therefore, that you will not be, in the smallest degree influenced by any thing you may have heard out of this place. I ought, indeed, to implore your forgiveness, for suggesting even a hint of the possibility of the minds of a Jury being drawn from attending to the evidence adduced; but the truth is, the man who has been so often pointed out to the fury of the public, apprehends hostility from every quarter, and naturally expects that every person who comes into court is prepared to take part against him. We are taught by our feelings, and our painful experience, how reluctant the human mind is to relieve itself from errors to which it has submitted; but certainly, in a case of such importance to the public and myself, I have no doubt you will divest yourselves of every thing you may have heard elsewhere, and attend to the evidence alone.

Gentlemen, the laws of England have, no doubt, placed every man accused of felony, under considerable difficulties, and in a situation of peculiar embarrassment, unknown to any other country. The law permits the prosecutor to avail himself of the assistance of his counsel, to lay his case before you, in the order most advantageous for the success of

the proceeding, and to make such observations as are calculated to give the greatest effect to the evidence adduced by him. This privilege is denied by the law to the accused; the law does not permit any counsel to speak to you in my behalf; and I am myself a plain unlettered man, unused to courts of justice, and unused to speak in public: thus situated, I am in no condition to give any answer to the case that has been made out to day, or to explain all the circumstances which have been argued upon by the learned counsel for the prosecution. My defence was necessarily prepared before my trial began, and is applied only to what I recollect of the case, as it appeared before the magistrate, it being impossible for me to know of any other facts that were to be proved, or to anticipate any of the arguments to be raised on them. I must entreat you to bear that circumstance in your minds, as you may otherwise think there are points which I ought to explain, to which I have not adverted. It is with this view I make these observations. I am far from meaning to insist, that the law which denies to the prisoner the assistance of counsel, if rightly understood, is liable to the objection of severity and injustice; on the contrary, it is founded on the same justice and humanity which distinguishes the whole code of English jurisprudence: the principle upon which the practice stands is this, that all felonies were originally punishable with death, and no man was to be subjected to that dreadful sentence, until the crime was established against him by such satisfactory proof, that the ingenuity and eloquence of counsel could raise no doubt in his favour.

Gentlemen, the case against me is merely circumstantial; it is not pretended that there is any thing which affords direct evidence of my guilt. No one but the deceased saw the man who fired the pistol, and the testimony he has left, clearly acquits me of being that person. There is no one circumstance, nor any chain of circumstances proved, which necessarily shews me to be the person who fired the pistol;

and although jurors have sometimes thought themselves warranted in convicting on circumstantial evidence, yet it has been in cases where the circumstances proved, were such as excluded all possibility of innocence, and which, therefore, demonstrated the guilt of the accused as clearly and satisfactorily as if he had been seen to do the deed. Indeed, even in some of the strongest cases, where juries have been induced by circumstances only, to convict a man, after the unhappy prisoner has paid the forfeit of his life for his supposed crime, it has been ascertained, that it had been committed by some other person, and often after such convictions, has accusing conscience forced from the murderer's breast a secret calculated to give the most solemn warning to those who are appointed to try supposed offenders, to move with fearful caution in the course that leads to death.

Gentlemen,—When you consider that circumstantial evidence consists of a chain of proofs, connecting, by the inter position of various facts, two things which have no connec tion with each other, you will readily perceive how dangerous it is to rely on a case, proved by such evidence. If any one link be defective, the strength of the whole chain fails, and although the broken members may be sufficient to create suspicion, they can, in no rational minds, induce conviction. All hope of that moral certainty, which alone can authorize you to say on your oaths, that a man is guilty, is gone the moment the least disagreement in the connecting points is discovered, the moment the least doubt of the existence of any one of them is excited. Reflect again on the union of the various circumstances upon which the strength of each link depends, and see if it be scarcely possible, that a chain consisting of so many facts as to require a long day to lay them before you, and those proved by thirty or forty witnesses, can be perfect. Remember, that upon each circumstance, however minute, you are to satisfy yourselves of the credibility of the witness deposing to it, upon the accuracy of his first

observation, of the correctness of his memory at the time he relates it, upon its agreement with some other circumstance, the chain of proof, and the justice of the inference drawn from it, to establish guilt. If you, or any of you, are not satisfied on any of those points, (for the whole twelve must agree,) the union of the whole, that alone gives strength to such a case, is dissolved, and the presumption of guilt is destroyed: but allowing every circumstance that has been stated to be true, still the charge against me remains unproved. Referring to what passed before the magistrate, for my knowledge of what is to be attempted in proof against me, I take it to be on the establishment of these three propositions:—first, That I had a motive to induce me to the commission of the murder;—secondly, That I had an opportunity of committing it;—and, lastly, That no other person could commit it.

With respect to my having a motive to commit such a crime against a person with whom I lived in terms of so much intimacy and affection, God knows I shrink back with horror at the idea; it is painful as death to me to be obliged to discuss this proposition; no thought injurious to him for an instant ever presented itself to my mind; so far from intending him any mischief, if my own life could have preserved him from the hand of the assassin, that should have been made a willing sacrifice; instead of my having any motive to destroy it, not only past acts of mutual kindness had formed our attachment, which no clashing of interest could ever impair, but at the time of his death his life was absolutely necessary to the welfare of myself and my family. My interest, as well as my regard for him, were sure pledges for his security against any attempt upon his life from me. My success in life depended on his living. At this time I expected, from his support, a return for the time and the money I had embarked in his concern. I was just admitted to a share of his business. A stranger in this part of the country; unacquainted with the persons with whom Mr. Blight dealt—of what use

was that share of the business to me, in the event of his death: how could I expect, without him, to obtain the credit that was necessary to enable me to purchase ships; or how was I to hope for connection with persons to whom I could sell again the property which I had bought. The life and friendship of Mr. Blight secured to me those advantages:—by his death I was deprived of them, and rendered incapable of carrying on the business. Let it not be supposed that my interest in this trade could have been enlarged by his death. His representatives would have been entitled to his share of the capital under the will, and as the whole capital was necessary for carrying on the trade, their share of it would have given them the same proportion of the profits which Mr. Blight himself would have received, while the whole profits would have been lessened by the want of his assistance. So far, therefore, from his death affording me any expectation of advantage, it presented to me the certain ruin of all my prospects in life. It has been suggested against me, that I was driven from my native place by poverty and distress: it is true, I was involved in a suit, about the tithes of my estate, which subjected me to some temporary embarrassment, but it is not true that I was reduced to a state of ruin, or that I had not property sufficient to establish myself again in business. I had an estate in land, and I had a well-stocked farm when I left the country. I went down into the country after I first came up to Mr. Blight's and sold my stock, and last spring I sold the estate, the money for which was remitted to me; but I have suffered a long imprisonment; the expenses of myself and my children, of which I have four, together with the necessary expenses of my trial, have disabled me from bringing up a number of witnesses from Devonshire, who could have proved that I had property, which has been long since converted into money, and which I have, at different times advanced to Mr. Blight. With this property in my pocket, I determined to acquire a knowledge of the business

of ship-breaking; and with this view, and not for the mere purpose of supporting myself by my labour, I entered into the service of Mr. Blight. It appears, from the whole of the evidence, that though I submitted myself to be in the situation of his servant, I had lent him several hundred pounds; and this is a fact Mrs. Blight acknowledges. I could have placed myself in some sort of business, and been relieved from the necessity of working for my bread. My chusing to work, and to become Mr. Blight's servant, under the circumstances, is no proof of my poverty, or of my being unable to pay for the share of his business which I afterwards purchased. I had more than 1300*l.* and had actually advanced to Mr. Blight 1250*l.* before the execution of the agreement of the 31st of August, by which one-third of his business was secured to me. The death of my brother, who was the only friend I had in London, besides Mr. Blight, whom I consulted on my affairs, has deprived me of positive evidence that I had property to that amount. Mr. Blight, and he only, ever knew it had been advanced to him; and though my claims upon him on account of such advances were satisfied, by his assigning me one-third part of the business, it is no direct proof that he ever received such money. If any of you were to lend money, and the debt was afterwards cancelled, by something being given in satisfaction of it, you would no longer preserve any voucher of the loan: but there were many circumstances connected with the affairs of Mr. Blight that renders it impracticable that any person but himself should know of those advances, and which would prevent any evidence of such advances appearing in his books. He had many private expenses, of which even Mrs. Blight was uninformed; he had several natural children Mrs. Blight did not know of; he was a man of gallantry, and expended considerable sums on women. Before he got into the ship-breaking business, he had been a merchant, and failed, and he was frequently pressed by the creditors of his former con-

cerns; he executed several instruments, and made various alterations in his property, for the purpose of protecting it against their claims; therefore, from the papers of such a person no satisfactory evidence can possibly be expected; on his statement as to his claim, or his declarations as to any instrument, no reliance can be placed; many apparently solemn instruments were undoubtedly fictitious; as for example, the assignment of the 15th of July, and all other papers connected with that transaction. Who can say what instruments were genuine, or what was the real cause or actual purpose of the execution of such documents? The 1250*l.* which was for the purchase of one-third of the business, was paid him before that business was assigned to me. On the 15th of July, when he conveys his property to me to protect it from his creditors, he there values it at 2065*l.* 4*s.*; the real value, as it appears, was 3315*l.* It would have been valued to me in this transfer at the price of 3315*l.* had it not been known that I had before that time paid 1250*l.*, which, added to 2065*l.*, makes up the whole 3315*l.* As he had received from me the 1250*l.* I was to have an interest to that amount in the business, and the 2065*l.* that was mentioned in the transfer, was to be invested in him when we came to a final settlement. On the 30th of August, when that settlement took place, he takes two-thirds of the trade for this 2065*l.* and leaves me one-third for my 1250*l.* From neither of these instruments is there any appearance of any thing remaining unpaid on my part; every thing respecting the transaction, as appears by the instruments, was closed. It is supposed that the 1250*l.* was paid in part by a check upon Mr. Goom; but it is perfectly incredible, that Mr. Blight, who had been engaged as a merchant all his life, should take a post-dated check of me, on a person he did not know, in payment of the sum of 1000*l.*, and that without ever enquiring of Mr. Goom, whether I had any right to draw upon him for it.

But there is a fact which shews better than any speculation, that no part of the 1250*l.* was paid by the check upon Goom, which is that the check was not in existence, or thought of till near two months after the transaction of the 1250*l.* was completely settled. I think I have proved by the assignment of the 15th of July, supported by the agreement of the 31st of August, that all that money must have been paid antecedent to the 15th of July, and the check was not made till the 7th of September, when it was deposited in my name at the bankers, as appears in their account, and the testimony of Mr. Percival. If this check had been drawn for the purpose of paying any part of the purchase-money, that had been agreed to be paid for my third of the business, would it not have been drawn at the time I was put in possession of the business. There is another circumstance, which I trust will satisfy you that the check was never intended for the purpose of paying Mr. Blight. The business was valued at 3315*l.*, of which I purchased one third at 1250*l.*; that 1250*l.* could not be intended to form a part of the capital of the business, but was to go into the pocket of Mr. Blight, where, in fact, it had gone in different advances. If it had gone into the capital I should have had a third-share of the capital of 4565*l.*, which it is clear neither of us could ever have intended. The 1250*l.* being for Mr. Blight's separate use, and not a part of the capital of the trade, none of it could have been paid into the bankers, in my name; and therefore the 1000*l.* check which was paid into the bankers, could not have been part of the 1250*l.* as is pretended, on the part of the prosecution; in fact, that check was only one of the many fictitious papers which the state of Mr. Blight's affairs rendered necessary; it was drawn for no other purpose than to keep up appearances at the bankers, and to conceal the real state of his affairs, and whatever Mr. Blight might have said respecting it, it was merely to give credit to those appearances. A mer-

chant surrounded by clerks, who record every concern relative to his business, would be enabled, by the evidence of such clerks, to lay before you such a statement of his affairs as would shew the amount of the property he was at any time possessed of; but can this be expected from a man who has no such assistance; is it fair to infer, that a man, by his poverty, has been urged to the commission of a capital crime, because he cannot, by a regular debtor and creditor account, establish the exact amount of his property? If I had laid out or advanced my money upon loans, I could have called persons to prove it, but I cannot call Mr. Blight from the grave to prove what advances have been made by me to him. What can I do more than I have done; that is, to advert to the assignment, which proves, that he did assign to me a third share, and that that share was paid for. I should hope you will think this such a proof of the application of property, in satisfaction of all demands of Mr. Blight, that is not to be shaken by vague declarations, or loose and idle conjectures; if you feel this, you will perceive I had no debt to cancel; and that I had no interest to advance by killing Mr. Blight; that, on the contrary, his death was destruction to all my hopes, with respect to that business in which I had embarked my property.

The next proposition advanced as a proof of my guilt is, that I had an opportunity of killing him.—Opportunities I have had enough, if I could ever have attempted so wicked a thing: from the circumstances in which we lived together, I could have done it when no one was nigh, and when no vestige of my guilt could have remained. I knew when he was at home alone, and when and where he went abroad: if I had been the person, should I have chosen to have committed the crime at a time when there was a witness upon the very spot, who could detect my guilt, or should I have done it by means of an instrument which must necessarily have alarmed the neighbourhood? The man who murdered Mr. Blight

did not know that he should have been able to get into the house, much less did he know that Esther Kitchener was sitting within five yards of him; but he found the outer as well as the inner door open, owing to my having gone to the privy, and was led by the light to the room in which Mr. Blight sat. So far from my having an opportunity of doing it, it is quite impossible I could have done it. Esther Kitchener says, I was in the privy at the time the pistol was fired, and from the model you will see it was impossible that I could have discharged any pistol from that place, which could be directed to the room in which Mr. Blight was sitting; I could not have got from the privy to any situation in which I could have fired at him for a considerable length of time; from the situation in which Esther Kitchener was placed, she must know whether it was possible for me to have accomplished it; she has said, that my shutting the privy door and the firing of the pistol were at the same time; the kitchen where she sat was directly between the privy and the spot from which the pistol was fired, and her situation was only a few feet from either of those places, she therefore had the fullest means of knowing what she has said upon that subject. I solemnly protest that her account of it is correct, and that I had not the opportunity, and therefore could not be the murderer; for it must be admitted, that if Esther Kitchener's account of hearing the report of the pistol, and the shutting of the necessary door be correct, it is impossible I can be guilty. But it is said, people often measure time incorrectly: true, I admit it, if the interval between the two events is long, but if it happens instantly with the other, there can be no mistake.

Much stress has also been laid upon my language and demeanour afterwards; but is no allowance to be made for the agitation of mind consequent upon such a scene; and does not the language and demeanour of every person afford different conclusions, according to the medium through which

they are viewed. If my conduct is viewed through an impartial medium, it will be seen that mine could not be the guilty hand: if it had, should I have called in all the neighbours? Should I have suffered every one to have seen him? Should I have run the risk of what he could or would say to the neighbours upon the subject? It is not in the nature of things that a person who has murdered another should conduct himself in such a way; it is not in the nature of things that he should call in witnesses to see what he had done: but as soon as the shot is fired, and while Mr. Blight retained his senses and his speech, I sent Esther Kitchener to alarm the neighbourhood. Did any man ever hear of a supposed murderer giving the first alarm, and that while the person was in a state to give evidence against him; but the deceased has left behind him evidence that puts it beyond all doubt; the person, whoever it was, must have been full in the view of the deceased; the door of the room in which the deceased was sitting opens from the left hand, and he sat in a part of the room opposite the right hand side of the door, and therefore to enable a person to fire at the deceased with his right hand the door must have been opened wide enough to present the whole of the body of the person firing to the view of the deceased: it is well known that I make use of my right hand upon all occasions, and therefore the door must have been open wide enough to expose my whole person; and if, as is most probable, the murderer advanced nearer to the deceased than the door, the observation that he must have seen the person who shot him is still stronger. Mr. Blight knew my person well, he had seen me but a few minutes before, and must have known if I was the person from whom he had received the wound; on the contrary, he never suggested any such thing, but continued to shew the greatest regard and kindness for me, and appeared uneasy whenever I was absent from him; and by his will, the last solemn act of his life, he sealed

his conviction of my innocence and integrity, by appointing me one of his executors.

The third proposition is, that no other person than I could have done it. The evidence in support of this proposition completely fails; both on the Thursday night and Monday night, it appears there were sufficient opportunities for the person who fired the shots to escape from the premises of the deceased; the timber in the yard afforded many places in which he might have concealed himself; the premises were not searched on the Monday evening till some time after the pistol had been fired, not till after the maid servant was gone out to procure assistance; during this interval what witness has stated that the murderer could not get away with ease over the gates? There are no less than three avenues which would have conveyed him out of the reach of detection, one directly facing the gate, a second to the right hand, and a third to the left. I think it is most probable, that on both nights the person must have stood some short time in the yard, because he must have heard persons passing by in the lane, particularly on the Monday night, when there were five persons, and one with a link; he must have expected they would stop him as he got over the pales; but supposing him to have waited for a few moments, as he naturally would when he heard persons in the lane, there was nothing to have prevented him from getting away. The persons who were in the lane did not continue there for any length of time; the two young women of the name of Davies, after stopping on the Thursday night, as they say, two minutes, passed on, and Michael Wright and his wife, the only persons near, went into the house with me, which gave the murderer an opportunity to escape. I cannot leave this part of the case, without stating that this shews the inaccuracy of the recollection of witnesses, and is a proof of the danger of relying on a case made out by a long string of facts, none of which, taken

separately, will make very strong and lasting impressions. The two Miss Davies's say they stopped two minutes in the lane; they heard no noise but the report of the pistol, or saw any person come off the premises; Wright says he heard a pistol near the watch box, that he was at the gate in half a minute, and found me standing there, which is stated to you as a proof that no one but myself could have fired this shot. This is sufficient to shew you how little reliance can be placed upon such testimony. If you consider this evidence, you will see that it is not sufficient so to shut out the rest of the world as to leave to me alone the possibility of doing this act. No man can number his enemies, or know the lengths to which those may go who feel particular animosities.

Gentlemen, it will not be expected from me that I should touch upon every little point, or explain every expression I may be said to have used: having disposed of the main parts of the case, all circumstances of more minute importance will, I am sure, vanish from your observation, and you will not rely upon loose broken conversation; no conversation can be relied upon, unless you have the whole that was said, and all the circumstances under which it was said.

Gentlemen, my fate is now in your hands; as you decide I live or die: so completely subdued am I, by the long imprisonment I have suffered; so galled and mortified by the slander with which my ears have been assailed during my confinement, that looking to myself alone, success or failure, life or death, are to me almost equally indifferent; but unhappily I am not permitted to think of myself only, I have four young children whose destinies are linked with mine, and depend upon me entirely for support: if I fall they will be left to complete and absolute beggary. I know their ruin could not and ought not to avert my fate, if the case were proved against me; but, if there be a doubt, let them have the advantage of that doubt, and restore to them their natural protector.

Nothing more remains but for me to declare, which I most positively and solemnly do, my innocence of the dreadful crime imputed to me by this indictment.

The evidence on behalf of the prisoner having been heard, the Lord Chief Baron then proceeded to the summing up. To his luminous epitome of all the circumstances of this extraordinary case we shall confine our account of it, as it would be impossible to state them in a manner more perspicuous, or satisfactory.

GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY,

It has been very truly stated in the extremely perspicuous opening of this case which you have heard, that it requires more attention, perhaps, than any that has ever presented itself before a jury, at least in the course of my observation I have not met with any that required more of your best attention and investigation than that which is now laid before you for your consideration.

Before I proceed to lay this evidence in a connected state before you, I will make a few observations upon the nature of the evidence that has been adduced; it is, indeed, what is usually called circumstantial evidence, that is, it is evidence in no part of which there is direct proof of the fact being committed by the individual charged; but that must often be the case, and it very frequently happens in cases in which the crime is that which is now imputed to the prisoner at the bar; for there are very few persons who do things of a premeditated nature without taking all the care they can that no direct evidence shall be in the power of the prosecutor to produce. With respect to cases where the evidence is circumstantial; when the circumstances connect themselves closely with each other; when they form a strong and a large body, carrying conviction to the minds of the jury, it is perhaps of a more satisfactory sort than that which is direct and positive. In many lamentable instances it has been known, that a short

story has been got by heart by two or three witnesses; they have been consistent with themselves, and consistent with one another, swearing to a fact which has afterwards turned out not to be true; but it is impossible for a variety of witnesses, speaking to a variety of circumstances, so to concert a story as to impose upon the jury by a fabrication of that sort; and therefore, where the evidence of circumstances is strong, cogent, and powerful; where the witnesses do not contradict each other, or themselves, it may be more satisfactory than direct evidence, and there are more instances than one, in which that has been the case.

The question you will have to decide will be, first, whether the witnesses are consistent with themselves; secondly, whether they are consistent with each other; and, thirdly, whether they lay evidence before you, such as to bring conviction to your minds.

On the part of the prosecution your attention, for the sake of perspicuity, has been called to three distinct things; the first is, a system of fraud and deception upon the deceased; and the inference from that is, that no good case can possibly have so rotten a foundation. The prosecutor means to bottom himself, in shewing you that fraud and deception was carried on for a considerable time upon Mr. Blight. The second is, that the firing of the pistol, on Thursday the 19th, was a mere contrivance, and was premeditated as an introduction to that which happened afterwards, and which ended in the death of Mr. Blight; and, the third point, is the motive ascribed to this act.—The motive is stated to be this, That the prisoner, who was a man in poverty, had worked himself into the good graces and opinion of his master, so much as to be admitted a partner in the trade; he was to have one-third of the profits of the business; 1250*l.* was to be paid for coming into it, and that he paid 250*l.*, 1000*l.* remaining unpaid; that there was one continued series of deception with respect to this; and when it came to the pinching day,

and when he is told he must go and get the money, and not come back without it, that the desperate hope of getting into the third share of the business without the payment of that 1000*l.* was the motive to get rid of Mr. Blight, to obtain his share of the business, and never to pay the 1000*l.*

You will attend to those three points while I recapitulate the evidence; in order to establish which, the first witness who is called is Richard Frost. He tells you he keeps the Dog and Duck, which is about sixty yards from Mr. Blight's premises, that between eight and nine o'clock in the evening on which Mr. Blight was shot, Esther Kitchener, the servant of the deceased, came to him; that he went directly to Mr. Blight's and found the gate fast; he says he did not try the wicket, but got over the gate; he then went towards the front door, but does not remember whether it was open or not; he saw Mr. Blight sitting in an arm-chair in the back room, on the left-hand side of the fire-place; he saw the prisoner standing in the room; that Mr. Blight was apparently in pain, supporting himself by his hands in his chair, and that in a minute or two the prisoner desired him to go for Mr. Jones the surgeon: he says he stayed with Mr. Blight at intervals, from time to time, till he died, at three o'clock the next day.

Mr. Ashley Cooper was called in, who I believe is experienced in gun-shot wounds: he tells you, that about three hours after Mr. Blight was wounded he was called in; he found him lying on the floor; he ordered every one to go out of the room except Mr. Jones the surgeon, Mr. Younger, who is also a surgeon, the prisoner, and a Mr. Ferguson; he examined his wounds; he found one on the part of the body about two inches from the navel, and another on the loins; he says, that the character of a gun-shot wound was visible in them; that he saw the contents of the bowels pass out of each wound, and therefore pronounced it to be mortal; he says, he thought it necessary to make some enquiry as to the person who might have done this: he said to Mr.

Blight, in the prisoner's presence, Is there any person whom you suspect of having committed this act? his answer was, No; God knows I never did any man an injury that could lead him to wish to take away my life; but Mr. Patch has mentioned to me a man of the name of Webster. He says he turned towards Patch, and asked, Who is this Webster? The prisoner anxiously said he was a man who had been suspected of having robbed the premises, that a search warrant had been taken out against him, and that his son had since absconded; this was said to shew that there was no great degree of improbability that some man had done this from a motive of revenge. Mr. Cooper then said, surely you should send to Bow Street, the premises should be again searched; to which the prisoner answered, No, for nothing will be found; and if nothing should be found I shall certainly be shot, or they will certainly shoot me, or words to that effect. Now, the observation made upon this is, that it was one of the most natural things in the world, when a friend came in, and was told that his friend was murdered, when a proposition was made to make the earliest possible enquiry, that there should have appeared some anxiety, instead of that indifference expressed by the prisoner, saying, that nothing would be found, and if nothing was found that he himself would be in peril. Mr. Cooper says, that he spoke to Mr. Blight respecting his will; he suggested to him in as delicate a way as he could the necessity of settling his affairs; Mr. Blight expressed a desire that a person of the name of Ferguson, and also the prisoner, should be added as executors to his will; he introduced their names into the will; he says, that some interlineations were made in it, which Mr. Blight with much effort signed. Soon after six o'clock the next morning, the prisoner came to him, and told him Mr. Blight was in great pain, and was anxious to know if he could do any thing for him; he said he was afraid it was impossible, but he went and found him in a great deal of pain, and his belly very much swollen; he soon after left the

house, and about four o'clock in the afternoon returned and found he had been dead about three quarters of an hour; he says the wound was undoubtedly the cause of his death. Mr. Cooper observed, that it was proper the will should be deposited in safe custody, and the prisoner pulled it out of his pocket, and delivered it to Mr. Brent.

Gentlemen, having ascertained what was the cause of Mr. Blight's death, which was necessary to be proved, we come now to the first transaction, which was the firing of the pistol, on Thursday the 19th. Several persons have been called, to prove to you that they were in such a situation that if any person had come out of the premises they must have seen them; they undertake to say that no person did, and the inference from that is, that it must have been done by some person within the house, or on the premises; it appears that no person was there but the prisoner and the servant maid, and she was sent out on an errand by him.

Ann Louisa Davies says, That on the 19th of September, between eight and nine o'clock, she came past Mr. Blight's premises; that it was dark; that she was beyond the gate that was at the angle, where she could just see the gate; that there were three other women in company; that she saw the flash of a pistol, and heard a very violent report; it appeared to be on the right hand upon Mr. Blight's wharf; she does not know from what part of the wharf the pistol was fired; she stood still about two minutes; she neither saw nor heard any one on the wharf; that if any person had got over the pales she was in such a situation that she must have seen him; that no one, in point of fact, did get over; and that she heard no noise in Mr. Blight's house; she went on towards Rotherhithe, and got to the Dog and Duck, which is kept by Frost, where she saw some persons, but did not stop.

Martha Eliza Davies says, she remembers the pistol being fired; she saw no one on the premises, or coming from them;

if any one had come from the premises she must have seen them.

Michael Wright says, he lives in Russel Street, Rotherhithe, Greenland Dock; that he was returning from Deptford on the night of the 19th, about ten minutes after eight o'clock; that about sixty or seventy yards before he came to Mr. Blight's gate there was a man lying in the road, drunk; he told him he had better get up and go home; that he then had some conversation with another person, who said he had been speaking to him, and had desired him to get up, but he would not; that he then heard the report of a pistol; that he did not see any one else except Patch, who was standing at the gate; that he asked him if he had seen any one running down between the alleys; he says he must have met any one who came from towards the gate. The prisoner then said, I wish you would step in with me, for somebody has fired at me, or, I have been fired at. Accordingly the gentleman went in, and the prisoner said, I will fetch a candle and shew you where the ball went through; that he took the candle to look for the ball, but could not find it: the maid servant then came in with some oysters, and Patch said to her, I have been fired at Esther, since you have been out. He says he took the candle again to look for the ball, when Esther Kitchener picked up a ball, about four feet from the window, which appeared to have been flattened; that the prisoner and he then went into another parlour. Then follows another circumstance, which has been much remarked upon, as shewing that there was no real apprehension going on in the prisoner's mind at this time, but on the contrary, that it was a pretence, and that he was not conscious, and did not believe that there was any real firing at him by a stranger; for Wright asked him if he should fetch any body to sleep in the house, because he thought it was very alarming; he said he need not give himself that trouble, that he was much obliged to him, but he did not accept the offer.

The witness said it might have come from a police boat, intended to be fired at smugglers; the prisoner said, no he did not think that, and was satisfied that there would be no more of it. The witness said, if I was you I would advertise it; upon which the prisoner said, you may depend upon that, I will bid 50*l.* reward, but which was never done. Then Wright says, he fetched Mr. Frost, and he asked the prisoner if he had any fire arms in the house? He said he had a pair of pistols that cost five guineas. The witness said they must be very good ones at that price. The prisoner said he had no ammunition. Frost said he would supply him with ammunition; and they went out with the prisoner. Upon his cross examination, he says, the watch-box is about sixty or seventy yards from the gate; that he passed on immediately when he heard the noise, and found the prisoner standing at the gate; that there is a road leading to Deptford, on the left hand, to Rotherhithe on the right, and another facing the gate, leading to a public road; that he was more than half an hour in the house examining what the prisoner shewed him.

Mr. Frost is again called, and he says he was fetched by Wright on the Thursday night; that he saw the prisoner standing in the front parlour; that he asked the prisoner what was the matter? He said he had been sitting in a chair close to the table, and had been shot at. The witness asked him where he thought it came from; he said he did not know. He asked him if he suspected any body; he said no. He was asked if he had any fire arms; he said he had, but he had no ammunition; upon which Frost told him he would give him powder, and would endeavour to find him ball; upon which the maid servant came in, and said, Mr. Patch, there are no candles. The prisoner said, Mr. Frost will lend you some. They all came out of the room, shut the door, and went to Frost's house; he asked the prisoner if he would accept of powder and ball; he said never mind, he would go

home to bed, for the villains would be there no more to-night.

Mr. Kinnard proves that the plan and the model describing the premises exhibited in court are correct; he says that the palisades would bear a very slender force; he says there was under the close paling inside, a quantity of old timber, in some places about six feet high, in others five feet six. Mr. Frost tells you, that in the front of the house, the depth from the edge of the wharf is ten feet, that the mud is very loose, and that any person must have sunk up to the middle.

Now, Gentlemen, the next witness is Esther Kitchener: she says she lived with Mr. Blight about two months; that the family consisted of Mr. Blight and his wife, herself, and the prisoner; that her mistress went to Margate, and her master also; that he left home on Thursday, the 19th of September; that the prisoner accompanied him part of the way when he was going to the coach; the prisoner returned home in the course of the morning. She says that the family used to sit in the front parlour, and did so for seven weeks; that she and the prisoner only were at home; that in the evening the prisoner was sitting in the front room, she was ordered to go out for oysters; that she was gone about nine or ten minutes; that she had to go about twice the length of the room in which we are now sitting; she then returned with the oysters unopened; she saw some persons near the gate; these were Mr. Wright and his wife; the prisoner said, is that you Esther? I have been shot at. She said, Lord have mercy upon me! where? He said, through the window. She says, she had fastened that window by his direction, earlier than usual; the prisoner said he was very poorly, and should go to bed soon; the shutters were outside wooden shutters; the prisoner sent Mr. Wright to fetch Mr. Frost; they then looked for the shot, and found it underneath the window through which it had come. The prisoner said he did not know that he or Mr. Blight had any enemy in

the world. She went to Mr. Frost's for a candle; she says, there was no search made that night that she knew of; the prisoner usually slept over the counting house, but that night he slept in Mr. Blight's bed, for her protection: she says her master came home from Margate on Monday, about seven o'clock in the morning; that he went out after breakfast; and after that, the prisoner went out on horseback; that the prisoner had boots on; that he usually wore boots; that she saw the prisoner afterwards with her master in the back-room, where they had not sat for seven weeks before; she says, the prisoner had shoes on, and white stockings; she did not observe whether they were ribbed or plain; the gates were made fast after the men left their work; that the front door shuts by a spring lock; that she was in the kitchen; that after tea the prisoner and her master were drinking grog; that the kitchen door is nearly opposite the door of the back parlour; that she could not see the parlour where she was sitting; that about half an hour after she had carried in some water for them to make their grog, the prisoner came into the kitchen and asked for a candle, and said, Esther, give me a candle, I have got a violent pain in my bowels; she gave him a candle, and he took the key of the counting house from the dresser; he went out at the door; she heard him open the counting house door; she heard him slam the door after him, which sticks, if you shut it very hard; she heard him go across the counting house very quick, and heard him slam to the privy door; and her words are, that at the instant she heard the privy door slam to, she heard the report of the pistol; she says her master came into the kitchen, and said, Esther, I am a dead man; she said she hoped not; she screamed violently, and ran and shut the street door, which was left wide open; that upon her return half way to the parlour door she heard a violent knocking at the street door; that the prisoner was there; that his breeches were unbuttoned; that he had light coloured breeches; she supposes

he was holding them in his hand, but cannot speak positively. He said, Lord have mercy upon me! What is the matter? upon which she said, My master is shot. The prisoner and she helped him into the parlour, where he had been sitting when he was shot; she does not recollect whether they had one or two candles; the prisoner desired her to go and fetch assistance; she said she was afraid to go; the prisoner bid her take Mr. Blight's hand and he would go; she said no, he should not go; she was afraid to be left alone; that she would jump out of the kitchen window; she did so, and Frost jumped over the gate; she did not see any body as she was going to Frost's or returning; she says she was examined before the coroner; the prisoner had some conversation with her; he said he did not know what was the matter, there were strange ideas, and told her to speak the truth, and nothing but the truth; this was the night before the coroner sat; that no one had been taken into custody at that time; she does not recollect any other conversation that passed; that the prisoner and her master went out just to the door together, and that they were out as long as might be occasioned by their making water.

Now, Gentlemen, a great deal depends upon the sense that should be put upon the words this woman uses, with regard to the admeasurement of time; it has been truly observed, that there is nothing we are so little in the habit of measuring with correctness as small portions of time; it would surprise any one to observe, by a watch that marks the seconds, how much longer a few seconds really are than people conceive; any one may easily try it; but when we speak of a minute, or two minutes, or an instant, we cannot be understood to mean more than a very short space of time, and therefore we must conceive this woman to mean no more than that a very small space of time had elapsed between the firing of the pistol and the slamming of the door; it will be

for you to consider under all the circumstances. The distance has never been particularly measured, has it?

[Mr. Serjeant Best replied, that from the plan it appeared that it was sixty-four feet.]

That is twenty yards; that could be run in a very short space of time, much less than a minute.

Gentlemen, there is another circumstance to which your attention ought to be called. The evidence given by this woman is, that notwithstanding, as the prisoner would have you understand, and as Mr. Blight understood it, there had been a firing on the Thursday preceding, yet this door is left open, and if the person who went out had an intention to make the way as clear as he could to effect that purpose; if speed and expedition were what the prisoner desired; and if he was the person who actually fired the pistol, he certainly contrived to leave the door open, so as to meet with no embarrassment on that account.

Gentlemen, the next witness is Christopher Morgan: he says, he was passing by Mr. Blight's premises about twenty minutes before nine, on the 23d of September; when he came to the gate he saw two lads; that James Berry was with him; that he went in with Berry and knocked at the door, the servant asked who was there; the witness said a friend wishes to render assistance; he saw Mr. Patch coming from the parlour door, where Mr. Blight was; that he began to relate the circumstance of Mr. Blight being shot; but the witness interrupted him, and told him he thought no time should be lost in searching the premises; that he asked him for a light; that he ordered the servant to give him one; that he followed him to the door with a lighted candle in his hand, and pointed to an old vessel, saying they had better search that vessel first; that when he pointed to the vessel, and directed them to search there, he parted from them, and the witness did not notice where he went: he says when he got

to the edge of the wharf, he and Berry judged that the vessel was about sixteen feet off, and no access whatever could be had to it; it was low water, and he examined the mud the whole length of the wharf; it appeared to be smooth like ice, and not the least disturbance upon it. From this circumstance it must be supposed that the prisoner knew what was the situation of the tide; that it was low water, and absolutely impossible that any person could have escaped that way: he says, they then proceeded to search the premises; he thinks it had been raining, as the yard was dirty, then they returned into the house: he says he saw Mr. Blight; that he said to him, in the hearing of the prisoner, Sir, in the awful situation in which you are, it is necessary that you should collect your thoughts, that some measures may be taken to apprehend the person who has done this: he pressed it upon him, whether he had offended any of his work-people, who were of the lower order, or whether, in the course of his connection in the trade he knew of any one who owed him any ill will? he answered, no. He says he then repeated the question to the prisoner, as he was lying on his face, holding a bottle to Mr. Blight's nose, which he did the greatest part of the time that he, the witness, was talking to him; he wished the prisoner to commission him to go to Bow Street: the prisoner said he did not see the necessity of it; the witness said, that an enquiry so early would be of great importance; he says he repeated it three or four times, stating, that the prisoner was in the same danger, having been shot at the Thursday before: the prisoner took him into the front parlour, and shewed him the manner in which he was shot at; that he was sitting at the table, and that according to the direction of the ball it must have come within six inches of his head; adding, that was the room Mr. Blight was accustomed to sit in, and he had no doubt it was intended for him. They then returned into the room where Mr. Blight was; the prisoner said he had had a pain in his bowels, that he found it

necessary to go to the privy, and said to Mr. Blight, I do not like to leave you; then the prisoner said, that when he went out he left the parlour, or front door open; the witness told him that it was very wrong to leave Mr. Blight unprotected; that he was certain human nature was not so depraved, for one man to shoot another without a cause: he turned to the witness, and said, he had as much reason to suspect him as any body else; that is as much as to say, I have no cause to suspect any body, and therefore I may as well suspect you as any body else; the prisoner said, that he and the deceased had been upon the alert all the evening, as they expected a visit of this kind, and they had been on the wharf a few minutes before. So far were the prisoner and the deceased from having been upon the alert, you hear, that the deceased came home tired; they had drunk tea, and had been drinking grog. In consequence of the prisoner's saying, that they had been on the alert, the witness said, it was very wrong to leave the doors open, and it was more wrong of him a great deal, to leave the door open, if the story of the firing on Thursday was a true one.

James Berry, the gentleman who was with Mr. Morgan, says, that on the 23d of September he heard what had happened; he went to Mr. Blight's door; that Mr. Morgan insisted upon going in; the prisoner came to the door and said to Mr. Morgan, what a shocking thing this is; Mr. Morgan, as well as he recollects, said, this is not a time to talk about that, shall I search the premises; he said, I will be much obliged to you if you will; he says he went into Mr. Blight's room, and came out again immediately; the prisoner said, the best way to proceed would be to go and search the vessel which was breaking up; he said, on the Thursday night, when the pistol was fired, we thought we heard a rumbling in the vessel, which induces me to advise you to go that way; the prisoner then went with a candle and candlestick to a remote part of the yard; the witness took the more notice of it, be-

cause he thought it very rash of him to go by himself: he says he was gone about a minute and a half; that he took no notice of him; that the vessel lay sixteen feet from the wharf; that she was heeling from the wharf; that they could not get on board; that there were no signs of any one having been on the mud; that from the edge of the water to the top of the wharf is about fourteen or fifteen feet perpendicular; he says that no person from on board the vessel could have shot at the window upon the wharf; that as this vessel lay in such a position, and so much further towards the Deptford road, it was impossible that any shot fired from that ship could have struck the window; that if the decks were out, they could not, with any possibility; that he went into the room where Mr. Blight was, that Mr. Morgan was there, but he did not pay attention to what passed; he says it was twenty minutes after the shot was fired when they began to search the premises.

Charles Stonard tells you, that he was a labourer at Mr. Blight's. He left work the evening before the first shot was fired, the next morning he heard of what had passed: he says that he looked at the shutter, which has been produced; he says it was the lower sash, which was about two feet nine inches from the ground; he says it was about twelve feet from the mud to the wharf; that close to the edge of the wharf the mud was not over their shoes, but that no person could get that way without being up to their middle in mud; that the vessel lay towards the stone-mason's yard; that across the wharf was about twelve yards; that it was impossible that any person in that vessel could fire at that window so low as two feet nine inches from the ground; the bullet must necessarily go a much greater height: he says, the hole which is in the window shutter slants differently from the way in which it would have slanted if it had come from this vessel: he says there is a crane, but it has no house belonging to it; there is no place of concealment at all: he says any person

who had escaped must have done so by climbing over the gates, and then the Miss Davies' must have seen them. He says, on the Thursday night he slept with the prisoner; that he carried no apparel with him but what he had on; that he is perfectly certain he carried no white stockings with him. He says, that the palings, towards the stone-mason's yard, are very slight; that no person could get over without breaking them, and none of them were broken. He says, that on the Tuesday before the coroner's jury sat, the prisoner said to Esther Kitchener, now, Esther, you are going before the jury, you must speak the truth, and nothing but the truth; and she said she should. Gentlemen, I agree with the observation, that if the conversation had stopped here, it would not have furnished evidence of any importance; but why should he suppose himself to be suspected when no accusation had been made against him; it is offered to you as evidence, to shew that he was conscious of something, because there was not, as far as we hear from any of the witnesses, the least suspicion entertained respecting him; perhaps, however, no strong inference can be drawn from it, but his language is certainly in the nature of leading questions; they are suggestions which would necessarily prompt the answer. He says, they will cross-question you, and ask you a good many questions, and if you begin one story you must keep to that story, and no other, if you do not you will get me into prison; they will ask you whether you gave me a candle; you know I asked you for a candle, and you gave me a candle; I took the candle out of your hand, and went into the privy, and you heard me shut the privy door: they will ask you all these questions, and you must tell them so; that about eleven o'clock at night, on the 24th, the day after the death of Mr. Blight, he takes her into the kitchen, tells her questions will be asked, and mentions those circumstances that were likely to be material for him. Then the witness says, that after the prisoner had been before the coroner's

jury, on the Wednesday night, he said, I was as near being hung as any thing ever was in this world. Stonard says, Esther Kitchener was at that time in the kitchen; and Patch added, if I had, I should have been as happy as I am now. What these words import I know not; I can put no construction upon them; he might mean that he was so unhappy at the loss of his master, that he would as soon have been in his situation; or, it may mean, that he was wretched in his own mind, and could not be more so: which of those constructions should be put upon those words must be left to you. He goes on and says, some people seem to think it was I that shot Mr. Blight; the jury asked me whether I had a couple of pistols; I told them yes, I have a couple of pistols, very short ones, somewhere above stairs in the box; you have seen me have the pistols, have not you? I said, No. It appears those were pistols which could not have been used upon this occasion, because they had no ramrods, they were screw barrels, which the pistol used upon this occasion was not. The prisoner said they were very short ones; and the witness said, those did not shoot my master, it was a larger one; the prisoner said, some people seem to think it was I that shot Mr. Blight; but one man shall take one of these pistols in his hand, I will take the other, and he shall have the first fire, meaning, I presume, that those pistols were not very fit for the purpose.

George Smith, a shipwright, says, he heard the report of a pistol, which appeared to have been fired from Mr. Blight's yard; there were three other boys near him, and five labourers; he was between ten and eleven yards from the gates; one of the labourers happened to have a link, which gave a good light: he says, no one, that he saw, came from Mr. Blight's; and that if they had climbed over, he must have seen them; he might be there a minute, more or less; that he heard no noise of any person walking, or attempting to get

over the gate. You observe, Gentlemen, the gates are such that a person might with great ease get over inside; that there were pieces of wood lying about the yard; that they might easily get over; but he says, no person did come over that he saw.

The next person called is John Brown, who says, he was with the last witness, near Mr. Blight's gates; he heard the report of a pistol; that five men were just before him, one of whom had a link: he says, that from the part where he was, he must have seen any one coming off Mr. Blight's premises in any direction, that is, either going towards Rotherhithe or Deptford, or going across to the road that leads to the high public road: he says, that Smith said, "they are again shooting the ship-breaker:" their attention is drawn to it, and they all three undertake to say, that in the situation in which they were, if any person had made their escape from those premises, they must have seen them.

The next witness is Sarah Blight, the widow of the deceased; and you observe that the defence which has been read to you to-day, as well as the account given by the prisoner, upon one of the examinations before the magistrate, presents this statement of matters, as between the deceased Mr. Blight and the prisoner, namely, that he was in no degree in debt to Mr. Blight; on the contrary, that he had lent Mr. Blight, at different times, of his own money 1200*l.* and upwards. You have heard the condition in which he came to Mr. Blight; but he states that he lent him considerable sums of money, and that all was settled by Mr. Blight in July, 1805; by which settlement the property was transferred, and sold out and out, and possession given in consequence of that sale, and the documents turned over to the prisoner; by which all scores were cleared between them, and that the 1000*l.* draft had nothing to do with any account between Mr. Blight and Patch, but it was money that was to

go into Blight's own pocket. In order to contradict this account, Mrs. Blight is called, and she completely refutes that account if you believe her testimony. What she says, is, that she first became acquainted with the prisoner about two years and an half since; that his sister lived as a servant with her; that he began this acquaintance with her by visiting that sister; that he soon after entered into Mr. Blight's service, and stated he had left the country on account of some difficulties occasioned respecting some tithes. What difficulties respecting tithes could banish a man from his estate in the country, and make him sell it, is a little difficult to conceive: however, we have no confirmation of this account. She says, that after some little time, he was engaged in Mr. Blight's service, at 40*l.* a year; that he worked a short time for his victuals and drink; that he was at that time employed in superintending other workmen; that he worked one year at the rate of 40*l.* a year, when his salary was raised to 100*l.* He certainly had acquired the good opinion of Mr. Blight to a very great degree. She says, that about four months before the death of Mr. Blight, he gave her some papers to deliver to Patch upon a certain contingency; that she was to give those papers to the prisoner in case of his being questioned about the property. She says, she never parted with those papers till after her husband's death; that she kept them in her custody; after which, she found them, on her return, in a tin box, where Mr. Blight had put them four months before; that they were directed to her, "Mrs. Blight" being written upon the envelope. She says he was taken into custody the evening after he had been questioned by the coroner about the property, and that the prisoner never had those papers in his possession till the 27th of September; that Mr. Blight went from town on Thursday, and that he received a letter on Saturday which induced him to return. She produces that letter, and it is this:

"DEAR SIR,

"I have a very unpleasant and alarming thing to inform you of:—I was last evening sitting in the front room, in the chair Mrs. Blight sits in at breakfast, about half past eight o'clock, and to my great surprise I heard the report of a gun: the contents of it came through the window nearest the yard gate. When the servant brought the lights in, I ordered her to shut the windows, as I intended to go to bed early; so the ball came through the window shutter, the side frame, and knocked the blind all to pieces, one of which struck me on the side of the head, but, I am happy to say, done me no material damage. I immediately ran into the yard, but could not see any one, and for the present am at a loss to judge the intention of it; but it seems very likely to be intended for your's or my life. I hope I shall find it to be accidental, which will be a great satisfaction to me, and I suppose to you also; but from the direction it came through, there is reason to think it was done from the wharf:—if so—no doubt the party was disappointed to find the window shut. I don't know what enemy you may have, but for my part I don't know I have offended any one by word or deed, or had a quarrel with any one. I have had but little business since you were gone, and have nothing particular more to insert, but my kindest respects to yourself and family, and hope this will find you all in health. I shall be happy to receive a few lines from you, but much more to see you, as you are the only friend I have to consult with.

"I am,

"Dear Sir,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

"RICHARD PATCH."

Gentlemen, you will observe, that although the time was running on very hard, and had drawn very near when the

1000*l.* note was payable, which, according to the prisoner's own account, was a note that Blight was to receive the whole benefit of, not a word was said about it, although the second note would have become due on the Monday. She tells you that Mr. Blight intended to have returned to London on the Monday; that she heard conversations between her husband and the prisoner, respecting a thousand pound bill drawn upon Mr. Goom; that the prisoner represented it as the purchase money for an estate he had sold in Devonshire; and that Mr. Blight was to receive this 1000*l.* as a consideration for the prisoner to have a part of the business; that 1250*l.* was to be given, and that 250*l.* had been paid in hand by the prisoner; that she had many times heard Mr. Blight say, when the bill became due it was to be paid into Mr. Blight's hands; that she heard her husband ask the prisoner, why, when it became due it was not paid; that the prisoner said his friend Goom was not ready to pay it; that he could get 500*l.* of him, but he would not take it, as he could not have the whole; that matters were in that state when he came from Margate; that he came away on the Sunday evening, instead of the Monday morning; that after her arrival in London she spoke to Patch about it: this was on the Friday morning; and as soon as she returned, she says she asked if Mr. Goom's bill was paid; he said, yes; that Goom had been there to breakfast on the Tuesday morning, by appointment, and, that he had been to the bankers, and the money was actually paid. She says she knew the contents of the papers that she was to deliver to Patch; that the object of them was to secure Mr. Blight's property to his family, because his trustees persecuted him very much; that all this she has now repeated, was frequently said between Patch and Mr. Blight, consequently in the prisoner's presence; that she never heard, till her husband's death, that the prisoner had paid 1250*l.* for a share of the business; that the prisoner advanced no other sum than 250*l.* and 50*l.* afterwards; that if he had advanced 1250*l.* she must

necessarily have known it, as she was well acquainted with the whole management of her husband's affairs. Gentlemen, the receipt and bill of parcels were then read to you, as well as the letter from Mr. Blight to the prisoner.

Upon her cross-examination, she says that her husband had failed as a West India merchant; that a trust deed was executed; that no dividend has been made of his effects; and that Mr. Blight carried on his present business to a very considerable extent.

Now, Gentlemen, you find here a complete contradiction to the statement made by the prisoner before the magistrate, and in his defence to day. You find, with respect to the transaction when Mr. Blight was in difficulty, he masked his property to give it the appearance of belonging to the prisoner, and that for that purpose he made a deed, purporting to be a transfer of the whole of his property for the sum of 2065*l.* but Mrs. Blight tells you that it never was acted upon; that the papers remained in the tin case, and never were so much as delivered out of her possession, and that the true meaning and intent was, that if the creditors should press upon Mr. Blight more than they had done, that they were to be produced, and the property was to appear to be not Mr. Blight's, but the prisoner's. This he converts, in his defence, and in his examination before the magistrates, into a transaction that he actually took possession of the stock and premises, began business, continued it, and carried it on after that time. However, on the 15th of July, he says he entered into business, and had these very papers in his possession; but Mrs. Blight says he never had them till the 27th of September, when she herself delivered them to him.

Stephen Goom is then called, who tells you that he is a glue maker, and lives in Tyer's Gateway, Bermondsey, which corresponds exactly with the direction upon the thousand pounds bill; that he employed the prisoner's brother; that he has not seen the prisoner from seven to ten years. He says he

never had any pecuniary concerns with him; that he gave him no authority to draw upon him whatever; that he never received any money from him; that he never received any money on account of the prisoner; that he never knew of the prisoner having drawn upon him to any amount; that he never had asked his permission so to do; that he never gave him any note, or other security; that he never made any appointment to breakfast at Mr. Blight's; that he did not know the prisoner was there; that he never called at the banking house of Messrs. Wood, Percival, and Co. and never told any body that he had done so.

Mr. Thomas Graham, a ship owner, is then called, and he says, that he knew Mr. Blight, and had seen him on Monday the 23d of September; that, on the Friday previous, he had called at Mr. Blight's house about the payment of a ship, when he saw the prisoner; that Mr. Blight himself was then at Margate; that the prisoner told him of a shot being fired, which had gone through the window; that he took him in and shewed him the window: he asked him if he knew any cause for it; that the prisoner said, No; but he believed it was intended either for him or Mr. Blight. He says, he shewed him the place where he sat, and said, that some part of the blind had struck him; that he shewed him where the ball was found, half way between him and the window; and the witness saw part of the blind lying on the floor; that he expressed some surprise at the splinters lying about; and that the prisoner said he wished Mr. Blight to see them; that he asked if he had any suspicion of any person; that he said, No; but that Mr. Blight had had some words with a person about a dock; he thinks he mentioned the name of Clarke; that the prisoner said he would write to Mr. Blight to come home immediately; that he was very uneasy about it. He says, that on the Monday he called again about one o'clock, and saw Mr. Blight, who had just come in from riding to town; that he sat down and ate something with him; that

the prisoner came in, and said, Mr. Blight, where are your spurs; that he then had boots on, and Mr. Blight said, Now, Patch, don't you return without the money; to which the prisoner replied, Sir, you may depend upon it, I shall not come back till it is settled, and then went away: those are the words which he denied to have said in his examination before the magistrates.

Mr. Percival is then called, who says, that the prisoner opened an account at their house on the 7th of September last; that he paid in a draft for 1000*l.* upon Mr. Goom, drawn by himself, on account, payable on the 16th of September; that before it was due he called again, saying, that Goom was not prepared to pay the draft on the 16th; that he would take the draft with him, and send another on a future day; that accordingly, he sent another that was dated on the 20th, which was produced and read; that before that became payable he received a letter from the prisoner, dated on the 19th of September, stating, that Mr. Goom was not able to face the draft; and that the prisoner would call and take up the check, and give Goom's note, but he did not take up the check, or leave the note. He says, that on the 23d of September, Mr. Blight called at their house about ten o'clock, to enquire about the draft upon Goom, and he then shews an entry in the prisoner's banking-book, made since the confinement of Patch, which is this:—"Messrs. Willis, Wood, Percival, and Co. will please to place the above bills to the credit of the executors of the late Mr. Isaac Blight;"—and it is signed by himself: the second draft appears to have been erased from that book by the bankers, in the regular course of their business. Now, Gentlemen, here you have another contradiction, for the prisoner says, that Mr. Blight never did go to town on that day, though by this evidence it appears he certainly did. You find also, that the note which Patch promised to take up, he never did take up, but he writes a letter to his bankers, saying it was not

convenient to Goom to take it up at that time, and that he had received a note for it, which was more satisfactory to him.

Then, the Websters are called to prove they were in different places at the time, and that the suspicion which the prisoner was the first to suggest, could not possibly be founded in fact, for they proved themselves to be in totally different places. Thomas Webster says, he is a sawyer; that he heard on Tuesday evening Mr. Blight was killed; that he was shot the night before; that he had been at work at Lavender Yard till six o'clock; that he then went to a public house, and about half past six to his own, which is about four or five hundred yards from Mr. Blight's; that he went to bed about eight o'clock; that his daughter was in labour, and he thought that going to bed was the best way of getting out of the way of the women. He says, he went by Mr. Blight's premises, but he had no fire-arms with him; that his son had never absconded; that he had gone to sea on the last day of August, and did not return till a fortnight after the death of Mr. Blight; so that his absence, which was called absconding, turns out to have been occasioned by his going to sea, and could have no connection with searching the house. He says, that Patch was the cause of his yard being searched; he does not think that Blight had any concern in the search; that it was made after his son went away, and therefore he could not abscond in consequence of it. You find, when the prisoner is asked whether he could not cast suspicion upon any body, he throws it upon Webster; and it appears that Patch himself was the man who caused his house to be searched, and not Mr. Blight; therefore there could be no possible enmity in Webster to Mr. Blight.

William Webster, the son, says, he left London on the last day of August; that he went to Deal, and did not return till about a fortnight after Mr. Blight's death.

Harriet Webster says, her sister-in-law was brought to bed on the night Mr. Blight was shot; that her father came

home in liquor, and went to bed about eight o'clock; that she had occasion to call him up, and that he did not go out of the house till five o'clock next morning.

Joseph Clarke says he is a labourer; that the day on which Mr. Blight was shot was a Monday; that on the evening of that day he was at the Red Lion, at Poplar; that he stayed about an hour and a half there, till half past eight o'clock; then he went to the Green Dragon, and then to the King's Head; that John Cox was with him the whole day, and was not near Mr. Blight's premises; that he had had a quarrel with Mr. Blight about a dock, but that was a long time ago.

John Cox says, they were in each other's company during the whole of that day.

Then, Gentlemen, the agreement was put in, which was to shew that 1250*l.* was to be paid when the business was separated, and the prisoner was to have one-third of the profits, and to take a part of the stock.

Mr. Jones, the surgeon, states, he saw the prisoner at Mr. Blight's on the 23d of September; that he knew him about a year and a half before; that in general his custom was to wear boots; that he saw him on that day in different situations in the house; that he had boots on when he called first, but when he saw him in the evening he wore white stockings; that he was called in as the surgeon to Mr. Blight, about nine o'clock; that the prisoner met him at the door, and told him what had happened, and pointed out Mr. Blight to him; that all the assistance Mr. Blight required, he would have only from the prisoner's hand, so much was he in favour with Mr. Blight; that the breeches which he had on were of a light colour, such as he himself wore; that his stockings, he believes, were white, and that he first observed them between eleven and twelve o'clock at night, when he was assisting Mr. Blight.

Mary Salter says, she is a washerwoman, and washed for the prisoner; that she received his linen on Monday the 23d,

between eleven and twelve; that she had had his linen only once before, and that was at the distance of a month or five weeks; that she marks her customers' linen with different sorts of worsted, and marks different persons' stockings, and a new customer's, particularly; she puts worsted into them, but cannot recollect having any white stockings from Patch on that day: then a pair of stockings were shewn to her with marks like those she put on her new customers' linen, but she does not identify them: she says, the linen she had from Patch on the Monday was foul on Tuesday; and that she then had only one pair, and they were brown stockings: we do not get the stockings identified by her, as coming to her from Patch.

Then Mr. Stafford is called, and he says, the stockings produced by him he found in a closet in the prisoner's bed-room; that they were folded up, having exactly the appearance they have now; that he felt a hardness when he grasped them; that he opened them, and found the soles all over mud; that the upper parts were very clean, but are now a good deal soiled by being handled by different persons; that they had not the least appearance of having been worn under boots. Upon his cross-examination, he says, he made the discovery of the stockings upon the 30th of September, so that it amounts to this, that from the 23d to the 30th, which is a week after the evidence, a pair of stockings is found in the prisoner's room, in a situation not expected to be found, dirty stockings, having upon them evident marks of the person who had worn them having been walking without shoes where there was a great deal of dirt, among the fragments of wood, and things of that sort; those are found in his bed-chamber in this condition; and you recollect Jones says he saw him between eleven and twelve o'clock at night, in white ribbed stockings, without boots.

Richard Murch is then called, and speaks to a very remarkable circumstance. He says he was employed to search

the privy on the Wednesday after Mr. Blight was shot, between the hours of three and five in the afternoon; that he found the ramrod of a pistol in the trunk, which stuck about two inches in the soil; that there was wadding at the worm end of it, and that the rest of the ramrod was perfectly clean; that there was nothing in the place like a person with a looseness having been there; more to the contrary; that he saw the prisoner at the Acorn, and observed some persons speaking to his sister; that the prisoner called her to him, and said, Sarah, have not such and such persons been asking you questions? He says the names were mentioned; that she answered yes; on which he said, be cautious of what you say, the report is of me, but they can bring no proof against me. Upon some questions put by me to the witness, it turns out, this place, as he describes it, is of this description: that the soil is so very hard that it operates as a pan, and keeps it from sinking or falling down into the well, and can find no passage. You hear from the prisoner himself, that he had been several times, before and after, making use of this place, certainly he was there so recently as eight o'clock on the Monday; and this man, who is conversant with this sort of work, tells you, if any person had made use of it but once, it must have been discovered. It appears that nobody could have made use of it in that way; there was nothing at all in it that indicated any person distressed, as the prisoner expressed himself to have been, but quite the contrary.

Mary Smith is then called. She says, that she is servant at the Brown Bear, where these persons waited to be called in turns for their examination; that the prisoner asked her to go to the servant, and take a glass of wine, with his compliments, and tell her not to fret, for they only kept her confined to frighten her, to see whether she would alter her story. Then Mr. Graham is called, and he produces the examinations.

Gentlemen, without wearying you with these examinations,

I will repeat only the substance: there is first a description of the transaction on the 15th of July, which, as I stated to you before, the prisoner represents as an entire conclusion of all accounts; that every thing was settled between them, no debt was due from him; that the deeds were delivered over to him, and he began business as a partner on the payment of that money. You have heard what Mrs. Blight says upon that point. In the next place, the prisoner says, that with regard to this note, it was an entire fabrication, suggested by Mr. Blight; that it was not a note that he had given as a good note; that he was no way interested in it, but that Mr. Blight thought it would be a very good expedient, (if he should be called upon) to send this fictitious 1000*l.* note, to make a better figure in the bankers' hands. Now, how that could make a better figure in the bankers' hands it is very difficult for any mortal man to comprehend; how it could be better to place a note in the bankers' hands, that he knew would not be paid, it is impossible for me to discover. The fact, as it turns out, from Mrs. Blight's evidence, is, that it was considered to be a good bill. Mr. Percival tells you, that Mr. Blight came to his shop himself; and another witness says, that Patch was ordered by Mr. Blight not to come back without the money; and it also appears that apologies were made from time to time, with which Mr. Blight was continually displeased.

Now, Gentlemen, the substance of the defence of the prisoner as well as I could collect it was this, that in the first place, the destruction of Mr. Blight would be the ruin of his fortune; that it was probable that it would not go on with that prosperity which it would have done if Mr. Blight had lived. With regard to that you will consider the rest of his observations upon that point. It is true, that the representatives of Mr. Blight might have carried it on, and the stock in trade have been applied just in the same manner as if Mr. Blight had continued in the business. It appears that Mr.

Blight's intention was to concern himself no farther, but that he took this very active partner into the business, in all human probability, for the purpose of taking from himself a great part of the labour of the business; so that notwithstanding Mr. Blight's death, if he had died a natural death, it did not necessarily follow that the business should be broken up; but that Mrs. Blight, or he, or some other persons for them, might carry on the business: then he says, the dispute about the tithes was the cause of his selling an estate which he had in the west of England.—We have no evidence of any such thing: he still insists upon the advances he made to Mr. Blight; and he insists further, that Mrs. Blight knew of these advances.—Mrs. Blight tells you she knows of no such thing, but conceives the prisoner owes 1000*l.* He insists upon an actual assignment, but Mrs. Blight says those papers were only to be made use of in case the creditors became pressing; that they were never to be delivered up to him but upon that occasion; and that they continued in the same tin box where they had been placed by Mr. Blight, till the 27th of September. Indeed, he says, the 1250*l.* composed no part of the capital at all; it was mere cash that had no connection with the business; it had no connection with the trade: on the contrary, it appears from all the rest of the evidence, that 1250*l.* was the exact sum that was to be paid for a share of the profits, of which 1000*l.* had not been paid, and of which only 250*l.* had been paid, except 50*l.* more, which was paid afterwards. He says, that the check was known to Mr. Blight to be a fabrication; and he persists in it as a matter done merely to keep up appearances; that it never was considered as a valid note at all; that this was known to Mrs. Blight, and that it was a concerted scheme between them. Then there are called to his character two or three witnesses, who have known him for the last two or three years, or thereabout. Mr. Slee says, he never heard any thing amiss of him: the second says, he has known

him about three years, and that he bore a good character; the third says, he has known him above a twelvemonth, but his knowledge of him was only by his dealing in the yard: they all speak to his character but for a short time back; and the last witness says, it was only from dealing with him in the yard that he knew him, and that he was an industrious man.

Gentlemen, upon the whole of this evidence you are to consider, in the first place, whether you are satisfied with regard to this 1000*l.* Whether you think there was not a complete deception carried on upon Mr. Blight with respect to it, as it has been proved by Mrs. Blight's testimony; and whether there was not in Mr. Blight's mind a perfect persuasion that this 1000*l.* check, as part of the consideration, was good and effective money, and would be paid for the third share of the business. The evidence in that respect seems to be exceedingly strong, and in no way to be affected by the suggestion, that it was Mr. Blight's wish to make a foolish appearance, not with his own cash, but with the prisoner's cash at the prisoner's bankers. If you are of opinion that that is so, the next question is, does any man deceive another in this way, time after time, without having some ulterior object? And then you will be to say whether he had the ulterior object of destroying Mr. Blight.

The next step in the business is the transaction of the 19th. Now that transaction consists of these circumstances: —he himself orders the window to be shut at an earlier hour than usual; the effect of that window being shut would be, that nobody could see whether any person was sitting in the room or not. Now we must suppose one of two things, either, that if a stranger had fired this pistol, it must be one who knew the state of the family at that time, or one who did not; if he did not know its divided state, he must suppose the family was entire; that Mr. and Mrs. Blight, and the prisoner, were in the house; that the maid servant might be passing backwards and forwards; that visitors might come

in, and then, not knowing where any of them were stationed, not knowing who was in the room, or how they were circumstanced, you must suppose him to fire his pistol, and take his chance of whom it might kill. That seems to be a very inexpert way of taking the life of any individual, to fire through the window shutter, merely to take the chance of his being in the seat where he usually sat, without knowing whether he was in the room, or whether he was sitting in his usual seat or not. If the person who fired that pistol knew that Patch was alone in the house, how could he have known that he was gone to sit in Mr. Blight's chair; the window was shut, and he could not tell whether Patch was in the room, or whether anybody was in the room, but it appears by firing at the place where Mr. Blight usually sat, that the determination of the person was evidently and in reality to aim at Mr. Blight; but if you suppose this was all a stratagem, certainly every thing was convenient for that purpose. Mr. Blight was out of the way, with his wife at Margate, the girl was sent out for oysters, nobody could see whether any person was in the room, the coast was perfectly clear, the window was shut, and if there had been a candle in the room it could not have been seen. Then there is added to that, the negative testimony of those persons whose evidence I have read to you, who say they were so placed that no person could have come over those palings without having been observed by them; and that no person could have got over without breaking them down, they being very slight, and not meant for support; and no breaking appears in these palings. Then, Gentlemen, comes the third step, which was the act itself; and with regard to that, I have already observed to you, that the door out of which the prisoner went to the privy was certainly left open, by which means he could return quickly, if he was so disposed. You find there was no anxiety whatever with respect to making any search, or any enquiries, or that sort of bustle on that night which it would naturally be

expected would shew itself on such an occasion in any one who had so much regard for the deceased as the prisoner states himself to have had. You find the same sort of evidence repeated, that no person whatever was seen to go from the premises: one would almost expect, that when the prisoner was running back in such a hurry, the person who had shot Mr. Blight must have been seen by him when he was coming out of the necessary. You find, too, that with respect to the necessary, to which he says he had had occasion to resort frequently, there was not the least appearance of any person having been there for that purpose. You find, likewise, that there was an implement for charging a pistol, namely, a ramrod, found, not exposed, but stuck into the soil. We all know there is sometimes a difficulty in getting the ramrod of a pistol back again into the small circle that receives it, if the person is in a hurry, especially if he knows that a moment's delay would be dangerous; it was necessary therefore to get rid of the ramrod as soon as possible, and go on with his pistol. You find, too, that Mr. Jones observed him, between eleven and twelve o'clock at night, with white stockings and shoes, and you find that a pair of white stockings, with the soles of the feet all over mud, were discovered in the room in which he slept. Now, in opposition to this, there is the demeanour of the prisoner in other respects; that demeanour consists in the circumstances of his having shewn particular attention to Mr. Blight, between the time he received the shot and the time he expired. To be sure, that mode of conducting himself might be taken as a part of the design, but if it was sincere, it goes against the idea of his being the hand which occasioned the death; certainly we do know, that when these things are concerted with great art, they are carried on so as to deceive the persons present.

Gentlemen, you are to decide upon the whole of the circumstances, and to say whether you are satisfied that this was a transaction bottomed in fraud originally, whether it was

carried on by deception, and afterwards consummated by the perpetration of this offence. You will also take into consideration the evidence of Esther Kitchener with regard to the space of time which was necessary for him to have come from the privy, when she says she heard him shut the door, having to pass through the counting-house, and to come to the front door, and you will say whether it is possible for him to have been the person. If you should be of opinion that this is the most strong and the best constructed chain of evidence one has almost ever heard of, consisting of a number of circumstances, many of which are unaccountable, unless it is upon a presumption of his guilt, some of them being inexplicable, and the whole body of them being such, as in your opinion, could not happen upon any reasonable supposition, but that of his being the person; and the very nature of circumstantial evidence being, that you may be satisfied that there is no rational mode of accounting for it but upon that supposition: if you should be of that opinion you will find him guilty, but if you think there is any, the least tolerable probability upon the evidence, of these circumstances being accounted for, then it is a case of that sort which will not amount to a conviction of the prisoner. You will take the whole into your consideration and deliver your verdict accordingly.

The jury having retired about twenty minutes, returned with a verdict of GUILTY.

Sentence of death was then passed in the usual form. His lordship directed that the prisoner should be executed on Monday, April 7th, and that his body should be dissected and anatomized. This awful sentence Patch heard with a sullen composure that seemed to border upon apathy.

From all the circumstances of this case, which had created an extraordinary sensation in the public mind, a confession of his guilt would have given great satisfaction. It was probably with a view to this object that his execution was post-

poned till Tuesday, April 8th, but without producing the desired effect; though the attempt to obtain one was zealously pursued after his conviction. The Rev. Mr. Mann, rector of Bermondsey, and chaplain to the prison, together with three dissenting ministers attended him in his cell. In their interviews with him he displayed the strongest proofs of penitence, but invariably declined returning any answer to the urgent entreaties of the clergymen to acknowledge the crime for which he was to die.

On the morning of his execution he received the sacrament with one Herring, who, together with his wife, was to suffer for coining, and about nine o'clock he ascended the scaffold. While the executioner was fastening the ropes, the Rev. Mr. Mann endeavoured, for the last time, to draw from him a confession, but with no better success than before. The sheriff then went to him and entreated him to acknowledge his guilt. Apparently displeased at being so much pressed on this subject, he threw himself considerably back with impatience. At this time the cap was drawn over his face, and every thing prepared to launch him into eternity. From the violent motion of his body some of the spectators apprehended that he designed to break his neck, and others, that he was fainting away; but it evidently proceeded from a wish to avoid all further entreaty. Mr. Ives, the keeper of the prison, observing the action of the prisoner, stepped up to him, and said, "My good friend, What are you about?" Patch took him by the hand, and after conversing with him about a minute and a half seemed to loose his hand with great reluctance. The sentence of the law was then carried into execution in the presence of an innumerable multitude of spectators, and the body of Patch after hanging an hour was conveyed to the hospital for dissection.

The incorrect and erroneous accounts that had been circulated respecting the temper and conduct manifested by Patch in his last moments, induced the Rev. Mr. Mann to

submit to the public the following authentic statement relative to that point:—

"I had," says this gentleman, "only two interviews with him antecedent to his trial; for these I was indebted to the adjournment of the Court from Kingston to the county goal. It is very seldom that a criminal can be visited with any good effect until his fate is determined. It is not to be expected that he will make any confessions. His mind, if not dissipated and hardened, which is too frequently the case, is so occupied in preparing means of defence, and so deceived by the hopes of escaping justice, that he is little disposed to listen to the admonitions of a spiritual friend. I believe this to have been the case with Patch. The circumstance which I have just mentioned afforded me, however, an opportunity which I did not neglect, of conversing with him after the bill had been found against him, and before his trial; and it is but just to say, that, whatever might have been the previous state of his mind, to me there never appeared in him any thing bordering on levity. He not only behaved with civility and propriety, but seemed thankful for my visit, and desirous that it should be repeated. I place the greater stress upon this, because, in my public sermons and exhortations, at which he was always present, I had spoken so plainly and pointedly that it was impossible for him not to perceive that I was addressing myself immediately and directly to him; a measure in the adoption of which I thought myself fully justified, and which some experience had taught me to prefer to any other.

"I observed as little ceremony in my private conversations with him, as I had done in my public discourses. In order, however, that I might not defeat my own purpose, and to render my visit as acceptable, as would consist with the fidelity and responsibility of my character and office, I first told him, that I did not mean, directly or indirectly, to extort from him any confession of his guilt; but that, regarding him

in his present situation, as a person apprehended by the justice of his country, and, under the strongest circumstances of suspicion, it was my duty to inform him of the general opinion—*that he was guilty—and that he would suffer.* I repeated this on my second visit; and, on both occasions, made it the ground of a serious exhortation to prepare for an event, which it was universally believed would happen, and 'which,' I added, 'it is my own firm persuasion will take place.' He appeared very little affected by this declaration; at the same time, I could plainly perceive that he had lost that confidence of his acquittal, which he was said to have previously possessed. With the loss of this confidence, I should have been happy to have seen a proper concern for the awful consequences, as connected with his own eternal happiness or misery.

"It was subsequent to his trial, that the change in his mind became visible. And it is in this, more than any other particular, that I feel myself impelled to do justice even to a wretched criminal, by contradicting what I have seen propagated, and what I believe to have been the too general opinion; that he was obstinate and sullen; that he discovered no symptoms of penitence; that, on the morning of his execution, he exclaimed, 'Is there no mercy for an innocent man,' &c. No such disposition appeared in him; no such words were ever uttered by him. If, prior to his conviction, I had observed an indifference approaching to insensibility, now his heart seemed broken within him. While I was with him he wept almost incessantly; listened with the most serious attention to every thing I said; lamented, in general terms, the sins and crimes of his former life; joined in prayer with apparent great devotion; and several times was on the point of fainting away through distress of mind.

"To all this I have to oppose what must appear a very great inconsistency. By no entreaties could I prevail on him to confess the particular crime for which he was to suffer;

by no arguments could I convince him that such confession, being the only restitution, or satisfaction, in his power to make, was a duty which he owed to the family whom he had injured, to the jury who had found him guilty, and to the surrounding world. He would reply, 'I have confessed all my sins to God; he knew them all before I confessed them; but I have laid them all before him; I have concealed nothing. I forgive all my enemies, and all my prosecutors; and I hope that God, for Christ's sake, will forgive me.' This was the language he invariably used, when urged to that particular confession which would have been so satisfactory to me and to the public at large. I repeated my arguments, and multiplied others in abundance, after the performance of the last service in the chapel; but with the same effect. He was evidently overwhelmed with distress on my renewing the subject; and it grieved me much to be, as I conceived, under the painful necessity of disturbing and embittering his few remaining moments. He was then pinioned, and in his last hour. He pressed my hand between both his, calling me his dear and best friend, and expressing himself in the tenderest and most affectionate terms respecting my attentions to him. He thanked me both for my public services in the chapel, and for my private discourses and prayers with him; and blessed God that he had ever known me, and that he had been brought to that prison. 'Since you have been with me this morning,' said he, 'I have been happier than ever I was in my whole life; I am willing to suffer; I am ready to go; the Lord have mercy on my soul, for Jesus Christ's sake.'

"How far, or whether at all, these appearances are to be considered as the signs of a real and gracious repentance, is beyond any judgment of mine to determine. I only state facts. I am accustomed to such scenes. I draw no conclusions from them.

"It is proper to mention, that, in all my intercourse with him, I spoke to him as a person respecting whose guilt I did

not entertain the smallest doubt; nor did he, in any form whatever, deny the fact; only he wished me to be silent on the subject; and once said, 'Do not press me, I have said all that I can say.' The generality of readers will find the same difficulty which I have done, in reconciling this apparently contradictory language and conduct; with only this difference, that I am in the habit of witnessing, in other criminals, similar inconsistencies and contradictions, and that I cease to wonder at them. There must have been very strong reasons, strong I mean, in his own mind and judgment, to have induced him thus to persevere in a resolution, which nothing could shake, of not criminating himself by any confession; were we acquainted with them, though they could not have been such as would justify his conduct, they would lessen our surprise. Exclusive of this one inconsistency, which I allow to be very essential, I should have been disposed to say of Patch, that he was one of the most penitent criminals I ever attended."

REMARKABLE CASE OF A PERSON WHO SWALLOWED A CROWN PIECE, AND HIS WONDERFUL RECOVERY, AS IT APPEARS IN THE MEDICAL TRANSACTIONS, AND ATTESTED BY DR. COYTE, OF YARMOUTH.

THE following circumstance, though extremely singular, may be depended upon as a fact. Mr. Capon, who kept the Crown inn, in Lowestoff, and who had for many years been subject to the epilepsy, was on the 12th of March, 1771, attacked with a violent fit of that disorder. It was customary at the time of these fits to put a crown piece edgeways into his mouth, in order to prevent him from biting his tongue. This expedient was practised on the present occasion; and, by a violent convulsive struggle, Mr. Capon forced the crown-piece from the person who held it into his mouth, and swallowed it.

The surgeon, (Mr. Arnold, of Lowestoff,) was from home at the time this accident happened; but at his return found Mr. Capon in violent agony, complaining of being choked, and of the impossibility of passing any thing into his stomach.

Whenever he endeavoured to swallow, he was greatly convulsed and complained much of a pain in both his ears; at which time the crown-piece was so low in the œsophagus that it was impossible to get it back again. It remained only to pass it into the stomach, which, with the concurrent advice of another surgeon, (Mr. Turner of Yarmouth,) was accomplished. His throat was inflamed and very painful for a long time, attended with the utmost difficulty in swallowing: his health after this was much as usual, though his fits were observed to be not so violent or frequent as before. Previous to the illness which he had lately, and on which account Mr. Arnold was consulted, he had occasion to be employed in fixing wine in deep vaults, and sometimes stood as it were upon his head, and complained soon after of a weight at his stomach, attended with a sickness, and a bitter taste in his mouth. Thus he had continued for some days with a fever; and Mr. Arnold found him, on the 19th of September, 1772, feverish, languid, and very sick at times, with a disagreeable bitter taste in his mouth.

In this condition he remained till Thursday, the 26th of November, 1772; when, at four o'clock in the morning, he complained of unusual sickness; and during a violent effort to vomit, in which he thought himself almost choked, though he did not then know the cause of that sensation, he voided the crown-piece, above twenty months after the day on which he swallowed it. The piece of money for the first two or three days was so black, that the inscription, or scarcely the impression, was perceivable. It never recovered its brightness, but still appears exceedingly discoloured. Mr. Capon became much better both in health and spirits than he

had long been, and had not any thing of that disagreeable taste in his mouth which he formerly complained of. He died July 5, 1799; and the crown-piece, which was put in a frame, and remains now in the possession of his widow, is the subject of much curiosity among travellers and visitors.

SINGULAR DISCOVERY OF A WILL, LOST TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

A MOST extraordinary case was tried at the last Maryborough assizes, in Ireland. It was briefly this. Robert Baldwin, in March 1782, made his will, in which he devised the lands now in question, to the children of his youngest son; soon after which his faculties failed him, and he became altogether childish, and died in April 1784, above eighty years old. The defendant, and eldest son, immediately afterwards gave out, that his father had destroyed the will; and no will being found, he entered into possession of the lands in question; and so matters remained for twenty-one years, the whole family, during all that time, believing that the father had died without a will. But, after twenty-one years, the delusion vanished, and the defendant's own children became the immediate instruments of justice to the children of his brother. In the year 1802, the defendant's wife died, and he very soon afterwards, at the age of seventy-eight, married a very young woman, which caused some anxiety to his two sons, Robert and Edward Baldwin, whose poignant expression of this feeling so exasperated their father, that he, in his resentment, executed his will to disinherit his eldest son Robert, and, in his fit of anger, shewed it to his second son, Edward, who instantly determined to get at it, and destroy it, in order to preserve the property to his elder brother. With this view he broke open his father's desk, where he found, not his father's will, which he sought after, but the will of his

grandfather, which was then altogether forgotten in the family. He read it, and found that the estate, of which his father would have disinherited his brother, lawfully belonged to his cousins, the children of his late uncle, John. He instantly communicated the important discovery to his brother, and he to their uncle, Jonathan; in consequence of which, the will was, about the beginning of the year 1805, lodged in the Prerogative Court.

When the defendant was apprized of the discovery of the will, he said, it was very true, his father never did cancel his will; but that he did it away by two deeds, by which he afterwards conveyed the property to him; and that those deeds were both registered. It appeared, indeed, that one such deed was registered since the discovery of the will; and both deeds appearing foully suspicious, a bill was filed in the Court of Exchequer; and, on hearing of the cause in the last term, the cousins desired to have the opinion of a jury on these alleged deeds. After a trial of eight hours, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiffs, with the full approval of the judge. By this verdict, the plaintiffs, (five in number,) are restored to an estate of 300*l.* a year, of which, for twenty-five years they have been deprived by their uncle.

Day Newspaper, August 11, 1809.

A WATCH IN MINIATURE.

JUNE 4, 1764, Mr. Arnold, of Devereux Court, in the Strand, watch maker, had the honour to present his Majesty with a most curious repeating watch, of his own construction, set in a ring. The size of the watch is something less than a silver twopence; it contains one hundred and twenty different parts, and weighs altogether no more than five pennyweights, seven grains and three-fourths.

Ann. Reg. 1764, p. 78.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WICKER WORK, CONTRIVED FOR THE REPAIR OF ISLINGTON CHURCH.

In pursuance of our intention to submit to the readers of this work authentic particulars respecting whatever is most curious in art as well as nature, we here present them with a representation and description of an ingenious contrivance for facilitating the repair of Islington church. Justice requires the acknowledgment, that we are indebted for this account to the valuable and interesting history of that parish, published in 1811, by Mr. John Nelson.

In 1787, Islington church underwent a thorough repair: the tower was strengthened by the insertion of three tiers of

iron bars, or ties, placed across in different directions. A flag staff, forty-two feet in height, which had stood at the south-west corner from the year 1776, was removed, and an electrical rod, or conductor, was affixed from the top of the spire to the ground, to preserve the building from the effects of lightning. The means used to effect these alterations were at once novel and ingenious. Thomas Birch, a basket maker, undertook, for the sum of 20*l.* to erect a scaffold of wicker-work round the spire. This he formed entirely of willow, hazel, and other sticks. It had a flight of stairs reaching in a spiral line, from the octagonal balustrade to the vane, by which the ascent was rendered as safe and easy as the stairs of a dwelling house. This ingenious contrivance entirely superseded the use of a scaffold, which would have been more expensive, and is frequently attended with danger in works of this kind. The spire on this occasion presented a very curious appearance, being entirely enveloped as it were, in a huge basket, within which the workmen performed the necessary repairs in perfect safety. The emolument received by the basket-maker on this occasion was very considerable, from the donations, not only of the inhabitants, but of others whose curiosity daily led them from London and the adjacent villages to view this surprising piece of workmanship. By this exhibition, which was advertised in the newspapers, Birch is said to have cleared 50*l.*; and as the price of admission to the wicker staircase was sixpence each person, he must have had two thousand visitors. The church on this occasion was shut up for five months; and the whole expense of the improvements and repairs amounted to near 800*l.*

The late Sir William Staines is said to have been the first person who contrived this kind of scaffolding, in some repairs done to the spire of St. Bride's church, London, which was damaged by lightning in the year 1764, after having his scaffold-poles, &c. which had been erected in the usual manner, carried away by a violent storm. It was afterwards improved

upon by Birch in repairing the steeple at St. Alban's, and brought to the greatest perfection by him at Islington, on the above occasion. A print of the church, with the spire inclosed in the wicker work, about seven inches square, was engraved and published by Matthew Skinner, of Camden Street, Islington, in February, 1788.

EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTION AND STRENGTH.

MATTHEW WEST, by trade a butcher, a prisoner confined in Newgate, under sentence of transportation, being one of the ringleaders in an attempt to break out of prison, June 1, 1758, was chained to the floor with his arms extended, and with an iron collar round his neck, in the condemned room, but on the 5th of June, got himself loose, and after getting himself disengaged from the floor, he had the resolution to wring the collar from his neck, by fixing it between two of the bars of the goal window, and by main strength broke it short in two.

Ann. Reg. 1758, p. 99.

A MAN DROWNED BY A CRAB.

JUNE 30, 1811. A few days ago, John Hall, a labouring man, went at low water among the rocks, at Hume Head, near Cawsand, for the purpose of catching crabs, when meeting with one in the interstices of the rocks, of a large size, he imprudently put in his hand, for the purpose of pulling it out; the animal, however, caught his hand between its claws or forceps, and, strange as it may appear, kept its hold so firmly, that every effort on the part of the poor fellow to extricate himself proved ineffectual; and no one being at

hand to assist him, the tide came in and he was next morning found drowned.

Nat. Reg., June 30, 1811.

ACCOUNT OF CHARLES DOMERY, THE GREAT EATER.

In a letter from Dr. Johnston of Somerset Place, to Dr. Blane.

Somerset Place, October 28, 1799.

MY DEAR SIR,

HAVING in August and September last been engaged in a tour of public duty, for the purpose of selecting from among the prisoners of war such men as, from their infirmities, were fit objects for being released, without equivalent, I heard upon my arrival at Liverpool, an account of one of these prisoners being endowed with an appetite and digestion, so far beyond any thing that ever occurred to me, either in my observation, reading, or by report, that I was desirous of ascertaining the particulars of it by ocular proof, or undeniable testimony. Dr. Cochrane, fellow of the College of Physicians at Edinburgh, and our medical agent at Liverpool, is fortunately a gentleman upon whose fidelity and accuracy I could perfectly depend; and I requested him to institute an enquiry upon this subject during my stay at that place. I inclose you an attested copy of the result of this; and as it may probably appear to you, as it does to me, a document containing facts extremely interesting, both in a natural and medical view, I will beg you to procure its insertion in some respectable periodical work.

Some farther points of enquiry concerning this extraordinary person having occurred to me since my arrival in town, I sent them in the form of queries to Dr. Cochrane, who has obligingly returned satisfactory answers. These I send along with the above-mentioned attested statement, to which

I beg you to subjoin such reflections as may occur to you on this subject.

I am, my Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

J. JOHNSTON.

To Gilbert Blane, M. D. F. R. S. and one of the Commissioners of Sick and Wounded Seamen.

Charles Domery, a native of Benche, on the frontiers of Poland, aged twenty-one, was brought to the prison of Liverpool, in February, 1799, having been a soldier in the French service, on board the Hoche, captured by the squadron under the command of Sir J. B. Warren, off Ireland.

He is one of nine brothers, who, with their father, have been remarkable for the voraciousness of their appetites. They were all placed early in the army; and the peculiar craving for food with this young man began at thirteen years of age.

He was allowed two rations in the army, and by his earnings, or the indulgence of his comrades, procured an additional supply.

When in the camp, if bread or meat were scarce, he made up the deficiency, by eating four or five pounds of grass daily; and in one year devoured one hundred and seventy-four cats (not their skins) dead or alive; and says, he had several severe conflicts in the act of destroying them, by feeling the effects of their torments on his face and hands; sometimes he killed them before eating, but when very hungry, did not wait to perform this humane office.

Dogs and rats equally suffered from his merciless jaws; and if much pinched by famine, the entrails of animals indiscriminately became his prey. The above facts are attested by Picard, a respectable man, who was his comrade in the same regiment on board the Hoche, and is now present;

and who assures me he has often seen him feed on those animals.

When the ship on board of which he was had surrendered, after an obstinate action, finding himself, as usual, hungry, and nothing else in his way but a man's leg, which was shot off, lying before him, he attacked it greedily, and was feeding heartily, when a sailor snatched it from him, and threw it overboard.

Since he came to this prison, he has eat one dead cat, and about twenty rats. But what he delights most in is raw meat, beef or mutton, of which, though plentifully supplied by eating the rations of ten men daily, he complains he has not the same quantity, nor is indulged in eating so much as he used to do, when in France. The French prisoners of war were at this time maintained at the expense of their own nation, and were each allowed the following daily ration:—Twenty-six ounces of bread, half a pound of greens, two ounces of butter, or six ounces of cheese.

He often devours a bullock's liver raw, three pounds of candles, and a few pounds of raw beef, in one day, without tasting bread or vegetables, washing it down with water, if his allowance of beer is expended.

His subsistence at present, independent of his own rations, arises from the generosity of the prisoners, who give him a share of their allowance. Nor is his stomach confined to meat; for when in the hospital, where some of the patients refused to take their medicines, Domery had no objection to perform this for them; his stomach never rejected any thing, as he never vomits, whatever be the contents, or however large.

Wishing fairly to try how much he actually could eat in one day; on the 17th of September, 1799, at four o'clock in the morning, he breakfasted on four pounds of raw cow's udder; at half past nine, in presence of Dr. Johnston, commissioner of sick and wounded seamen, Admiral Child and

his son, Mr. Foster, agent for prisoners, and several respectable gentlemen, he exhibited his power as follows:—

There was set before him five pounds of raw beef, and twelve tallow candles of a pound weight, and one bottle of porter; these he finished by half past ten o'clock. At one o'clock there was again set before him five pounds of beef and one pound of candles, with three bottles of porter; at which time he was locked up in the room, and sentries placed at the windows to prevent his throwing away any of his provisions. At two o'clock, when I again saw him with two friends, he had nearly finished the whole of the candles, and a great part of the beef, but had neither evacuation by vomiting, stool, or urine; his skin was cool and pulse regular, and in good spirits. At a quarter past six, when he was to be returned to his prison, he had devoured the whole, and declared he could have eat more; but from the prisoners telling him we wished to make some experiment on him, he began to be alarmed. It is also to be observed, that the day was hot, and not having his usual exercise in the yard, it may be presumed he would have otherwise had a better appetite. On recapitulating the whole consumption of this day, it stands thus:

Raw cow's udder	4 pounds
Raw beef - - - -	10 pounds
Candles - - - - -	2 pounds
Total - - -	16 pounds, besides five bottles of porter.

The eagerness with which he attacks his beef when his stomach is not gorged, resembles the voracity of a hungry wolf, tearing off and swallowing it with canine greediness. When his throat is dry from continued exercise, he lubricates it by stripping the grease off the candles between his teeth, which he generally finishes at three mouthfuls, and wrapping the wick like a ball, string and all, sends it after at a swallow.

He can, when no choice is left, make shift to dine on immense quantities of raw potatoes, or turnips; but, from choice, would never desire to taste bread or vegetables.

He is in every respect healthy, his tongue clean, and his eyes lively.

After he went to the prison, he danced, smoaked his pipe, and drank a bottle of porter; and, by four the next morning, he awoke with his usual ravenous appetite; which he quieted by a few pounds of raw beef.

He is six feet three inches high, pale complexion, grey eyes, long brown hair, well made but thin, his countenance rather pleasant, and is good tempered.

The above is written from his own mouth, in the presence of, and attested by—

Destauban, French surgeon.

Le Fournier, steward of the hospital.

Revet, commissaire de la prison.

Le Flem, soldat de la sec. demi brigade.

Thomas Cochrane, M. D., inspector and surgeon of the prison, and agent, &c. for sick and wounded seamen.

Liverpool, Sept. 9, 1799.

(A true copy.)

JOHN BYNON,
Clerk in the Office for Sick and Wounded Seamen.

Queries and Answers.

1. What are the circumstances of his sleep and perspiration?

He gets to bed about eight o'clock at night, immediately after which he begins to sweat, and that so profusely, as to be obliged to throw off his shirt. He feels extremely hot, and in an hour or two after goes to sleep, which lasts until one in the morning, after which he always feels himself hungry, even though he had lain down with a full stomach. He then eats

bread or beef, or whatever provision he may have reserved through the day; and if he has none he beguiles the time in smoking tobacco. About two o'clock he goes to sleep again, and awakes at five or six o'clock in the morning in a violent perspiration, with great heat. This quits him on getting up; and when he has laid in a fresh cargo of raw meat, (to use his own expression,) he feels his body in a good state. He sweats while he is eating; and it is probably owing to this constant propensity to exhalation from the surface of the body, that his skin is commonly found to be cool.

2. What is his heat by the thermometer?

I have often tried it, and found it to be of the standard temperature of the human body. His pulse is now eighty-four; full and regular.

3. Can this ravenous appetite be traced higher than his father?

He knows nothing of his ancestors beyond his father. When he left the country, eleven years ago, his father was alive, aged about fifty, a tall, stout man, always healthy, and can remember he was a great eater; but was too young to recollect the quantity, but that he eat his meat half boiled. He does not recollect that either himself or his brothers had any ailment, excepting the small-pox, which ended favourably with them all. He was then an infant. His face is perfectly smooth.

4. Is his muscular strength greater or less than that of other men at his time of life?

Though his muscles are pretty firm, I do not think they are so full or plump as those of most other men. He has, however, by his own declaration, carried a load of three hundred weight of flour in France, and marched fourteen leagues in a day.

5. Is he dull, or intelligent?

He can neither read nor write, but is very intelligent and conversable, and can give a distinct and consistent answer to

any question put to him. I have put a variety at different times, and in different shapes, tending to throw all the light possible on his history, and never found that he varied; so that I am inclined to believe that he adheres to truth.

6. Under what circumstances did his voracious disposition first come on?

It came on at the age of thirteen, as has been already stated. He was then in the service of Prussia, at the siege of Thionville: they were at that time much straitened for provision, and as he found this did not suit him, he deserted into the town. He was conducted to the French general, who presented him with a large melon, which he devoured, rind and all, and then an immense quantity and variety of other species of food, to the great entertainment of that officer and his suite. From that time he has preferred raw to dressed meat; and when he eats a moderate quantity of what has been either roasted or boiled, he throws it up immediately. What is stated above, therefore, respecting his never vomiting, is not to be understood literally, but imports merely, that those things which are most nauseous to others had no effect upon his stomach.

There is nothing farther to remark, but that since the attested narrative was drawn up, he has repeatedly indulged himself in the cruel repasts before described, devouring the whole animal, except the skin, bones, and bowels: but this has been put a stop to, on account of the scandal which it justly excited.

In considering this case, it seems to afford some matters for reflection, which are not only objects of considerable novelty and curiosity, but interesting and important, by throwing light on the process by which the food is digested and disposed of.

Monstrosity and disease, whether in the structure of parts, or in the functions and appetites, illustrate particular points of the animal economy, by exhibiting them in certain rela-

tions in which they are not to be met with in the common course of nature. The power of the stomach, in so quickly dissolving, assimilating, and disposing of the aliment in ordinary cases, must strike every reflecting person with wonder; but the history of this case affords a more palpable proof, and more clear conception of these processes, just as objects of sight become more sensible and striking, when viewed by a magnifying glass, or when exhibited on a larger scale.

The facts here set forth tend also to place in a strong light the great importance of the discharge by the skin, and to prove that it is by this outlet, more than by the bowels, that the recrementitious parts of the aliment are evacuated: that there is an admirable co-operation established between the skin and the stomach, by means of that consent of parts so observable, and so necessary to the other functions of the animal economy; and, that the purpose of aliment is not merely to administer to the growth and repair of the body, but by its bulk and peculiar stimulus to maintain the play of the organs essential to life.

ZERAH COLBURN,

A BOY EIGHT YEARS OLD, REMARKABLE FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY POWERS OF CALCULATION.

It is not too much to assert that the most astonishing instance of premature skill in arithmetical combination ever known to have existed, is exhibited in this wonderful child, whose tender age, and the situation of his parents, preclude the possibility of his having acquired his present powers by the ordinary means of improvement. The following account of him was drawn up in August, 1812, by that ingenious calculator Mr. Francis Baily:

The attention of the philosophical world has been lately attracted by the most singular phenomenon in the history of the human mind that perhaps ever existed. It is the case

of a child, just *eight years of age*, who, without any *previous* knowledge of the common rules of arithmetic, or even of the *use and power* of the Arabic numerals, and without having given any particular attention to the subject, possesses (as if by intuition) the singular faculty of solving a great variety of arithmetical questions *by the mere operation of the mind*, and without the usual assistance of any visible symbol or contrivance.

He was born at *Cabut*, a town lying at the head of Onion river, in Vermont, in the United States of America, on the 1st of September, 1804. In August, 1810, although at that time *not six years of age*, he *first* began to show those wonderful powers of calculation which have since so much attracted the attention and excited the astonishment of every person who has witnessed his extraordinary abilities. The discovery was made by accident. His father, who had not given him any other instruction than such as was to be obtained at a small school established in that unfrequented and remote part of the country, (and which did not include either *writing* or *cyphering*,) was much surprised one day to hear him repeating the products of several numbers. Struck with amazement at the circumstance, he proposed a variety of arithmetical questions to him, all of which the child solved with remarkable facility and correctness.

The news of this infant prodigy soon circulated through the neighbourhood, and many persons came from distant parts to witness so singular a circumstance. The father, encouraged by the unanimous opinion of all who came to see him, was induced to undertake with this child the tour of the United States. They were every where received with the most flattering expressions; and in the several towns which they visited, various plans were suggested to educate and bring up the child free from all expence to his family. Yielding, however, to the pressing solicitations of his friends, and urged by the most respectable recommendations, as well as by a view to his son's more complete education, the father

has brought the child to this country, where they arrived on the 12th of May, 1812, and the inhabitants of the metropolis have had an opportunity of seeing and examining this wonderful phenomenon, at the Exhibition Rooms, Spring-Gardens, and of verifying the reports that have been circulated respecting him.

Many persons in this country, of the first eminence for their knowledge in mathematics, and well known for their philosophical inquiries, have made a point of seeing and conversing with him: and they have all been struck with astonishment at his extraordinary powers. It is correctly true, as stated of him, that—" He will tell the exact *product* arising from the multiplication of any number, consisting of two, three, or four figures, by any other number consisting of the like number of figures. Or, any number, consisting of six or seven places of figures, being proposed, he will determine, with equal expedition and ease, *all* the *factors* of which it is composed. This singular faculty consequently extends not only to the *raising of powers*, but also to the extraction of the *square* and *cube roots* of the number proposed; and likewise to the means of determining whether it be a *prime* number (or a number incapable of division by any other number); for which case there does not exist, at present, any general rule amongst mathematicians." All these, and a variety of other questions connected therewith, are answered by this child with such *promptness* and *accuracy* (and in the midst of his juvenile pursuits) as to astonish every person who has visited him.

Amongst a variety of cases of this kind, the following singular instances are particularly worthy of being recorded. He was asked to tell the square of 999,999: which, after some little time, he stated to be 999,998,000,001; and he further observed, that he had produced this result by multiplying the square of 37037 by the square of 27. He then, of his own accord, multiplied that product by 49; and said

that the result (viz. 48,999,902,000,049) was equal to the square of 6,999,993. He afterwards multiplied this product by 49; and observed that the result (viz. 2,400,995,198,002,401) was equal to the square of 48,999,951. He was again asked to multiply this product by 25; and in naming the result (viz. 60,024,879,950,060,025) he said that it was equal to the square of 244,999,755. He was once more asked to multiply this product by 25: and in naming the result (viz. 1,500,621,998,751,500,625) he said that it was equal to the square of 1,224,998,775.

At a meeting of his friends, which was held for the purpose of concerting the best method of promoting the views of the father, this child undertook, and completely succeeded in raising the number 8 *progressively* up to the *sixteenth* power!!! and in naming the last result, viz. 281,474,976,710,656, he was right in every figure. He was then tried as to other numbers, consisting of one figure; all of which he raised (by actual multiplication and not by memory) as high as the *tenth* power, with so much facility and dispatch that the person, appointed to take down the results, was obliged to enjoin him not to be so rapid! With respect to other numbers consisting of two figures, he would raise some of them to the sixth, seventh, and eighth power, but not always with equal facility; for the larger the products became, the more difficult he found it to proceed.

He was asked the *square root* of 41,744,521, and before the number could be written down, he *immediately* answered 6461. He was then required to name the *cube root* of 413,993,348,677, and in the space of *five* seconds he replied 7453. Various other questions of a similar nature, respecting the roots and powers of very high numbers, were proposed by several of the gentlemen present, to all of which he answered in a similar manner.

One of the party then requested him to name the *factors* which produced the number 247483, which he immediately

did by mentioning the two numbers 941 and 263; which indeed are the only two numbers that will produce it. Another of them proposed 171395, and he named the following factors as the only ones that would produce it; viz. 5 × 34279, 7 × 24485, 59 × 2905, 83 × 2065, 35 × 4897, 295 × 581, and 413 × 415. He was then asked to give the factors of 36083; but he immediately replied that it had none; which in fact was the case, as 36083 is a prime number. Other numbers were indiscriminately proposed to him, and he always succeeded in giving the correct factors, except in the case of prime numbers, which he discovered almost as soon as proposed.

He was then asked how many times a coach wheel, 12 feet in circumference, would turn round in 256 miles: in *two* seconds, he replied 112,640: and likewise added, that the number of *barley corns* in that distance was 48,660,480.

One of the gentlemen asked him how many *minutes* there were in forty-eight years; and before the question could be written down, he replied 25,228,800: and instantly added, that the number of *seconds* in the same period was 1,513,728,000. Various questions of the like kind were put to him; and to all of them he answered with nearly equal facility and promptitude; so as to astonish every one present, and to excite a desire that so extraordinary a faculty should (if possible) be rendered more extensive and useful.

It was the wish of the gentlemen present to obtain a knowledge of the method by which the child was enabled to answer with so much facility and correctness the questions thus put to him: but to all their inquiries on this subject, upon which he was closely examined, he was unable to give any information. He positively declared, and every observation that was made seemed to justify the assertion, that he did not know how the answers came into his mind. In the act of multiplying two numbers together, and of raising powers, it was evident, not only from the motion of his lips,

but from other singular circumstances, that some operation was going forward in his mind; yet that operation could not, from the readiness with which the answers were furnished, be at all allied to the usual mode of proceeding with such subjects: and moreover he is entirely ignorant of the common rules of arithmetic, and cannot perform upon paper a simple sum in multiplication or division. But in the extraction of roots, and in mentioning the factors of high numbers, it does not appear that any operation can take place, since he will give the answer immediately, or in a very few seconds, where it would require, according to the ordinary method of solution, a very difficult and laborious calculation: and moreover the knowledge of a prime number cannot be obtained by any known rule.

It has been observed that it was evident from some singular facts that the child operated by certain rules known only to himself. This discovery was made in one or two instances when he had been closely pressed upon that point. In one case he was asked to tell the square of 4395; he at first hesitated, fearful that he should not be able to answer correctly; but when he applied himself to it, he said it was 19,316,025. On being questioned as to the cause of his hesitation, he replied that he did not like to multiply four figures by four; "but," said he, "I found out another way; I multiplied 293 by 293, and then multiplied the product twice by 15, which produced the same result." On another occasion, his Highness the Duke of Gloucester asked him the product of 21734 multiplied by 543; he immediately replied 11,801,562: but upon some remark being made on the subject, the child said that he had in his own mind multiplied 65202 by 181. Now although in the first instance it must be evident to every mathematician that the result by either mode of proceeding must be the same, yet it is not the less remarkable that this combination should be immediately perceived by the child, and we cannot the less admire

his ingenuity in thus *instantly* seizing the easiest method of solving the proposed question.

It must be evident from what has been here stated, that the singular faculty possessed by this child is not altogether dependent on his memory. In the multiplication of numbers, and in the raising of powers, he is doubtless considerably assisted by that remarkable quality of the mind: and in this respect he might be considered as bearing some resemblance (if the difference of age did not prevent the justness of the comparison) to the celebrated Jedediah Buxton, and other persons of similar note. But in the extraction of the roots of numbers, and in determining their factors, if they have any, it is clear to all those who have witnessed the astonishing quickness and accuracy of this child, that the memory has little or nothing to do with the process: and in this remarkable point consists the remarkable difference between the present and all former instances of an apparently similar kind.

We may be permitted to hope and expect that those wonderful talents which are conspicuous at this early age may, by a suitable education, be considerably extended and improved, and that some new light will eventually be thrown upon those subjects, for the elucidation of which his mind appears to be peculiarly formed by nature, since he enters into the world with all those powers and faculties which are not attainable even by the most eminent at a more advanced period of life. Every mathematician must be aware of the important advantages which have sometimes been derived from the most simple and trifling circumstances; the full effect of which has not always been apparent at first sight. To mention one singular instance of this kind: the very simple improvement of expressing the powers and roots of quantities by means of indices introduced a new and general arithmetic of exponents: and this algorithm of powers led the way to the invention of logarithms, by means of which

Jedidiah Buxton,

Aged 19.

Pub. June 2 1793, by R. S. Kirby at London House Yard

and until he was a year old, his parents considered him very much inferior to the rest of their children, and sometimes fearfully anticipated all the trouble and sorrow attendant on the maintenance of an idiot. By degrees he seemed to improve, and they began to conceive better hopes; but he was more than two years old before he was supposed to possess that degree of intelligence which usually falls to the share of our species. After this, his progress became more apparent; and though all who saw him were struck with something eccentric in his manners and amusements, yet they could not help acknowledging that he was shrewd and intelligent.

In his general disposition he is uncommonly docile and affectionate; but discovers considerable pride of opinion, and is chagrined when detected in an error. He is remarkably inquisitive, and is never satisfied with a superficical examination of any new object or fact. Music seems to excite him most powerfully, and next to this pictures.

In person Zerah Colburn is larger and more robust than the generality of children are at his age, with a fair complexion and red hair. His figure is well-proportioned; but there is this remarkable circumstance in his external conformation, that he has, *by inheritance*, six fingers on each hand, and the same number of toes on each foot.

JEDEDIAH BUXTON,

A WONDERFUL SELF-TAUGHT CALCULATOR.

THE peculiar faculty which distinguished Jedediah Buxton, cannot fail to secure him a place among extraordinary characters; and it cannot be doubted that, had the energies of his mind been cultivated and improved by education, he might probably have extended the boundaries of his favorite science, and attained an eminent rank among mathematicians.

John Buxton, the grandfather of Jedediah, was vicar of Elmeton in Derbyshire; his father, William Buxton, was

schoolmaster of the same parish, and there he was himself born, in 1704. Notwithstanding his father's profession, Jedediah's education was so much neglected, that he was not even taught to write; and with respect to every other knowledge than that of numbers, he appeared throughout life to be as ignorant as a child ten years of age. How he first came to know the relative proportions of numbers, and their progressive denominations he could not tell; but to this point he applied the whole force of his mind, and upon it his whole attention was constantly fixed, so that he frequently took no cognizance of external objects, and when he did it was only with respect to their numbers. This kind of attention he paid equally to what he heard, and to what he saw. If any space of time was mentioned, he would soon after say that it was so many minutes; and, if any distance, he would assign the number of hair's breadths, though no question were asked, nor any calculation expected by the company. By these means he greatly increased the power of his memory with respect to figures, and stored up in his mind several common products, to which he could have immediate recourse, as the number of minutes in a year, of hair's breadths in a mile, and many others. When he was once made to comprehend a question which was not always done without difficulty and time, he began to work with amazing facility after his own method, without the use of pen, ink, chalk, or any visible sign, and even without understanding the common rules of arithmetic as taught in the schools.

He would stride over a piece of land, or a field, and tell the contents almost as exactly as if it had been measured with the chain. In this manner he measured the whole lordship of Elmeton, of some thousand acres, belonging to Sir John Rhodes, and brought him the contents not only in acres, roods, and perches, but even in square inches. He then, for his own amusement, reduced them to square hair's breadths, computing forty-eight to each side of an inch. Such was his memory, that while

resolving a question, he could desist and resume the operation again where he had left off, the next morning, or in a week, a month, or several months, and proceed regularly till it was completed. His memory would doubtless have been equally retentive with respect to other objects, had he attended to them with equal diligence; but his perpetual application to figures prevented the smallest acquisition of any other kind of knowledge. He was sometimes asked, on his return from church, whether he remembered the text or any part of the sermon; but it never appeared that he brought away one sentence, his mind on a closer examination being found to have been employed, even during divine service, in his favorite operation, either dividing some time or some space into the smallest known parts, or resolving some question that had been proposed as a test of his abilities.

His method of working was perfectly his own, and by no means the shortest or the clearest, as is evident from the following example:—

He was required to multiply 456 by 378, which he accomplished as soon as a person in company had produced the product in the common way. On being requested to work it audibly, that his method might be known, he first multiplied 456 by 5, which produced 2280, which he again multiplied by 20, and found the product 45600, which was the multiplicand multiplied by 100. This product he again multiplied by 3, which produced 136800, or 456 × 300. It therefore remained to multiply by 78, which he effected by multiplying 2280, (the product of the multiplicand multiplied by 5,) by 15. The product, being 34200 he added to the former, which made a total of 171,000; and to complete the operation multiplied 456 by 3, which produced 1368. Having added this number to 171,000 he found the product of 456 × 378 = 172,368. Thus it appeared that his arithmetic was so completely his own, and that he was so unacquainted with the common rules as to multiply, first by 5 and then 20,

whereas, by the addition of two cyphers he would at once have obtained the same result.

A correspondent in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, for February, 1751, (vol. xxi. p. 61,) gives the following particulars of this extraordinary man:—

"I met with him by accident last summer, and after hearing of his performances, I first proposed to him the following random question: in a body whose three sides are 23,145,789 yards, 5,641,732 yards, and 54,965 yards, how many cubical eighths of an inch? After once naming the several figures distinctly one after another in order to assure himself of the several dimensions, and fix them in his mind, without more ado he fell to work among more than a hundred of his fellow-labourers, and after leaving him about five hours on some necessary concerns, in which time I calculated it with the pen, at my return he told me he was ready: upon which, taking out my pocket book and pencil to note down his answer, he asked me which end I would begin at, for he would direct me either way. I chose the regular method, and to my great surprise, found, that in a line of twenty-eight figures he made no hesitation, nor the least mistake. Many such questions did several other people give him, which he never failed to answer truly; yea, he often corrected those who wrought with the pen. What is more astonishing than this, he would suffer two people to propose different questions one immediately after the other, and give each their respective answers without the least confusion.

"Another person, before several witnesses, proposed the following questions:—

"1. In a field 351 yards long, and 261 yards wide, how many acres? After eleven minutes he answered, 18 acres, 3 roods, 28 perches, and 14 remained.

"2. Suppose sound moves 1142 feet in one second of time, how long then, after the firing of one of the cannons at Retford, may the same be heard at Haughton Park, taking

the distance at five miles? After about a quarter of an hour he replied, in 28 seconds, 7 thirds, and 6 remained.

" 3. Admit I set 3584 brocoli plants in rows, four feet asunder, and the plants seven feet apart, in a rectangular plot of ground, how much land will these plants take up? In near half an hour he said, 2 acres, 1 rood, 8½ perches.

" 4. What dimensions must I give my joiner to make a cubical corn bin that shall hold me just a quarter of malt Winchester measure? This question exercised all his faculties, and he declared it was the hardest ever proposed to him, whence it was evident that he never engaged himself about the cube root. Though it appeared so difficult, he was very desirous to answer it before it was too late in the evening, and after some time, said to himself, 'there were nooks in it, but he would sift them out.' Without heeding the talking of the company he sat as one regardless of every thing about him except his pot of beer. In about an hour he answered very correctly, that it would be a little more than 25¼, and not quite 26 inches on a side." To the same gentleman who proposed the preceding questions Buxton gave an account of the quantity of ale which he had drunk at free cost since he was twelve years of age, at the houses of sixty noblemen and gentlemen, and the number of pints which he had received from each. The whole amounted to 5,116 pints, or *winds*, as he termed them, because he never used more than one pint to a wind, or two to a quart.

Another correspondent, in the same miscellany, for August, 1751, (Gent. Mag. vol. xxi. p. 347.) furnishes the following additional particulars respecting the strength of Buxton's powers, which are certainly more astonishing than any of the preceding instances.

" I perceive," he says, " that he has a good notion of the square, oblong, triangle, and circle. The first question I proposed was as follows:—admit a field 423 yards long, and 383 wide, what was the area? After I had read the figures to him

distinctly he gave me the true product, 162,009 yards, in two minutes, for I observed by my watch how long every operation took him. I then asked him how many acres the same field measured. In eleven minutes he told me, 33 acres, 1 rood, 35 perches, 20 yards and a quarter just. I then proposed to him, how many barley corns would reach eight miles. In a minute and a half he answered, 1,520,640 barley corns. He is the slowest in finding the area of a circle, but yet he finds it very near the truth, though he does not use the mathematical rules. I asked him how many times a coach-wheel turned round in the distance between London and York, allowing it to be 204 miles, and the circumference of the wheel six yards. In thirteen minutes he answered, 59,840 times. The next proposition was, If a tub or bin be 346 inches long, 256 inches wide, and 94 inches deep, how many gallons liquid measure, and what corn will it hold? Answer, 3,454,464 solid inches, or 1,768,685,568 half quarters of solid inches, making 12,249,872 gallons liquid measure, or 12,249 gallons, 3 quarts, and 34½ inches; or it will hold 191 quarters, 3 bushels, 3½ quarterns, and 34½ inches remainder. Again, suppose a canal was to be dug 426 feet long, 263 wide, and 2 feet deep, how many cubical yards of earth to be removed? After pausing a quarter of an hour he answered, 10,373 yards, 24 feet.

"He will talk freely while he is working his questions, as it is no molestation or hindrance to him, though enough to confound a penman. He told me, that from May 17, 1725, till June 16, following he was *drunk*, to make use of his own expression, with reckoning by his memory, and will never attempt so much reckoning again for fear of falling into the same dilemma. I suppose what he means by being drunk was his being so much stupefied with thought as to be incapable of business. But to proceed farther with this uncommon man.—I was led by curiosity to enquire what question it was that caused his drunkenness; to which he replied, in an-

swering the following question:—In 202,680,000,360 miles, and each mile reckoned to be cubical, how many barley corns, vetches, peas, wheat, oats, rye, beans, lentils, and how many hairs, each an inch long, would fill that space, reckoning 48 hairs in breadth to an inch on the flat, as he found them to be so. I shall here subjoin his table of measures, which he founded on experiment.

200	barley corns	are contained in one solid inch.
300	wheat corns	
512	rye corns	
180	oats	
40	peas	
25	beans	
80	vetches	
100	lentils	
2304	hairs, an inch long	

"According to this table he calculated the following result: 14,093,420,936 quarters, 1 bushel, 1 peck, 1 quartern, 3 pints, and 5¼ solid inches of one sort of grain are contained in one solid mile, or 5,451,776,000 yards in a cubical mile, being 254,000,358,061,056,000 inches in a cubical mile; and, if every hair be an inch long, and 2304 hairs a cubical inch, then 586,040,972,673,024,000 will fill the space of a cubical mile; but if a hair be no longer than it is broad, he then found that there would be 28 tribes, 129 thousand 966 millions of millions, 688 thousand 305 millions, and 152 thousand hairs to fill the space of a cubical mile.

"Millions, millions upon millions, tribes, cramps, and so on, (for in this manner he enumerates his long series of numbers) are as familiar to him as pounds, shillings, and pence; I may say more familiar, for he has seldom more than a week's wages before hand. A few days since he set himself a voluntary task to calculate how much one farthing doubled 140 times would amount to. This he desired me to set down in

thirty-nine places of pounds and an odd 2*s.* 8*d.*, as follows: £.725,958,238,096,074,907,868,531,656,993,638,851,106 2*s.* 8*d.*, which he reads thus:

725 tribes of tribes
958 thousand millions of millions of tribes
238 millions of millions of tribes
096 thousand millions of tribes
074 millions of tribes
907 thousand tribes
868 tribes
531 thousand millions of millions
656 millions of millions
993 thousand millions
638 millions
851 thousand
106 pounds, 2 shillings, and 8 pence.

"I shall only mention one thing more with respect to this man's memory. When I asked him if he could multiply this immense sum into itself, he said he would undertake it, and the odd fraction likewise if I pleased, but I dismissed him with the whole numbers. Here then he has to multiply 39 figures by 39, and all by the strength of his memory, without having recourse to human assistance, or pen, ink, and paper.

"What a prodigious task must it be to work this by the head only, which he certainly did, and after two months and a half brought the following answer, which he read thus:

527 tribes of tribes of cramps
015 thous. mill. of mill. of tribes of cramps
363 mill. of mill. tribes of cramps
459 thous. mill. tribes of cramps
557 millions of tribes of cramps
385 thousand tribes of cramps
673 tribes of cramps
733 thous. mill. of mill. of cramps
542 million of millions of cramps
638 thousand millions of cramps

591 millions of cramps
721 thousand cramps
213 cramps
298 tribes of tribes
966 thous. mill. of mill. of tribes
079 mill. of mill. of tribes
307 thousand millions of tribes
524 millions of tribes
904 thousand tribes
381 tribes
389 thousand mill. of millions
499 millions of millions
251 thousands of millions
637 millions
423 thousand
236 pounds."

As this extraordinary man lived in laborious poverty, his life was necessarily uniform and obscure. Time with respect to him changed nothing but his age; nor did the seasons vary his employment, except, that in winter he used a flail, and in summer a ling-hook. The most remarkable event in his life, perhaps, was his visit to London, in 1754. This journey, which he performed on foot, was undertaken for the purpose of seeing the king and royal family, who, excepting figures, were the only objects of Buxton's curiosity: but as they had just removed to Kensington he at last returned disappointed. He was however introduced to the Royal Society, whom he called *the volk of the siety court;* the gentlemen present asked him several questions, to prove his abilities, and he gave them such satisfaction, that they dismissed him with a handsome present. During his residence in London he was taken to see the play of King Richard III. performed at Drury Lane theatre. It was expected either that the novelty and splendour of the spectacle would have fixed him in astonishment, or kept his imagination engaged; or that his passions would in some degree have been touched by the a-

tion if he had not perfectly understood the dialogue. But Jedediah's mind was employed at the play-house just as it was in every other place. During the dance he fixed his attention upon the number of steps; he declared after a fine piece of music, that the innumerable sounds produced by the instruments had perplexed him beyond measure, and he attended to Garrick himself only to count the words that he uttered, in which, as he declared, he had perfectly succeeded.

Buxton returned to the place of his birth, where, if his enjoyments were few, they at least appeared equal to his wishes. He again applied with cheerfulness to the labour by which he subsisted; he regretted nothing that he left behind him in London; and it continued to be his opinion, that a slice of rusty bacon afforded the most delicious repast. In this state of serenity, the offspring of content, he passed the remainder of his days, and died in 1774, at the age of seventy years, leaving several children, none of whom inherited the rare talents of their father.

ACCOUNT OF A COUNTRY BOY, WITH A TALENT FOR CALCULATION SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE TWO PRECEDING SUBJECTS.

THIS account is given in a letter from a gentleman at Bridport, June 9, 1765.

I send you an account of a parish apprentice boy I have met with, who is now about eleven years of age, can neither read nor write, yet has a genius greatly similar to that of the famous Jedediah Buxton, of Derbyshire, who, although he could neither read nor write, could solve most questions in arithmetic, and many questions in algebra, by a method he had adapted to himself, and wrought by his memory only. I put to this boy the following questions, which he answered very readily; and I make no doubt but, as he grows up, he will come up to, if not exceed, Buxton.

I first asked him the amount of the aliquot parts of a pound, from a 16th to a 32d part, which he answered very quickly. I next asked him the amount of 1 to 20 inclusive, in arithmetical progression; which after a pause of a few minutes, and twirling his thumbs, as is usual for him to do when at work, he gave me a true answer. I then told him, if he would proceed to 50, I would give him sixpence, and if he went on to a 100, I would give him a shilling; he then continued his work to 50, and desired to be excused the remainder till the morning, when he took up the question where he left off, and gave me a true answer. I next asked him, if a hundred stones were laid in a right line, a yard asunder, and the first stone a yard from a basket, how far a man must run to fetch them into a basket. He quickly went up to the 30th stone, and would have done the remainder if I had promised him more reward.

He keeps a very good account, by his memory only, what he has given him from time to time, which is put into a box to be kept for him; and although it is very often put a penny, or twopence, at a time, or whatever it is, he will tell the day every sum was put in, and who gave it him, for two years back, and how much is now in the box, though he has not seen his bank told over from the first commencement of it.

Ann. Reg. 1765, p. 88.

NEGRO CALCULATOR.

By the report of Dr. Rush, of Philadelphia, a phenomenon, equal, if not superior to that prodigy in calculation, Jedediah Buxton, has appeared in Maryland, in the person of a black slave; this is more extraordinary, as it is somewhere remarked, that few of the woolly-headed blacks can go farther in the art of enumeration than the number 5. The man being asked how many seconds a man of seventy years, some odd months, weeks, and days, had lived? in a

minute and a half told the number. The gentleman, after calculating the same by figures, said he was wrong. "Stop massa," replied the black, "you forgot the leap years;" and on including them, the gentleman found the black was precisely right. This slave is a native of Africa, and could neither read nor write; neither could Jedediah Buxton. The publication of these facts seems to have an *end* in view, which, however, will by no means lessen their credit, when reported by Doctor Rush, on his own knowledge.

Ann. Reg. 1788, p. 220.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BOILING FOUNTAINS IN ICELAND, CALLED GEYSERS, AS GIVEN BY SIR GEORGE STEWART MACKENZIE, BART. IN HIS TRAVELS IN ICELAND.

THESE celebrated fountains are about sixteen miles to the north of Skalholt. The hill does not exceed three hundred feet in height, and is separated from the mountain towards the west, by a narrow stripe of flat boggy ground. Crossing this bog, and a small river which runs through it, at the east end of the hill, the most wonderful and awful effects of subterraneous heat are exhibited.

There are several banks of clay, from some of which steam arises in different places; and in others there are cavities in which water boils briskly. In a few of these cavities the water, by being mixed with clay, is thick, and varies in colour; but it is chiefly red and grey. Below these banks is a gentle and uniform slope, composed of matter which, at some distant period, has been deposited by springs that no longer exist. The strata, or beds thus formed, seemed to have been broken by the shocks of earthquakes, particularly near the great Geyser. Within a space not exceeding a quarter of a mile, there are numerous orifices in the old incrustations, from which boiling water and steam issue, with

different degrees of force; and at the northern extremity is the great Geyser, sufficiently distinguishable from the others by every circumstance connected with it. On approaching this place, it appeared that a mount had been formed of irregular, rough-looking depositions, upon the ancient regular strata, whose origin has been similar. The perpendicular height of this mount is about seven feet, measured from the highest part of the surface of the old depositions. On the top of this mount is a basin, which we found to extend fifty-six feet in one direction, and forty-six in another.

At a quarter before three o'clock in the afternoon, when we arrived on the spot, we found the basin full of hot water, a little of which was running over. Having satisfied our curiosity at this time, we went to examine some other places, whence we saw vapour ascending. Above the great Geyser at a short distance, is a large irregular opening, the beauties of which it is hardly possible to describe. The water which filled it was as clear as crystal, and perfectly still, though nearly at the boiling point. Through it we saw white incrustations forming a variety of figures and cavities, to a great depth; and carrying the eye into a vast and dark abyss, over which the crust supporting us formed a dome of no great thickness; a circumstance which, though not of itself agreeable, contributed much to the effect of this awful scene. Near this spot are several holes, from which vapour continually rises; and from one of which a rumbling noise proceeded. This last might probably be taken for what Sir John Stanley denominates the roaring Geyser. But as the opening is not large, the beautiful cavity attempted to be described may have been the seat of that once furious spring. "One of the most remarkable of these springs," says Sir John, "threw out a great quantity of water, and from its continual noise we named it the roaring Geyser. The eruptions of this fountain were incessant. The water darted out with fury every four or five minutes, and covered a great

space of ground with the matter it deposited. The jets were from thirty to forty feet high. They were shivered into the finest particles of spray, and surrounded by great clouds of steam. The situation of this spring was eighty yards distant from the Geyser, on the rise of the hill."

From the last mentioned circumstance, notwithstanding the noise produced by the other, we were inclined to think that the first cavity described was the one whence these furious jets were thrown. The quantity that runs from it is small; and its perfect stillness at the time we saw it, formed a striking contrast with Sir John Stanley's description. The mass of incrustations which seems to have been formed by this spring, was open in several places, and the cavities were full of water. It is probable that an earthquake has deranged the mechanism of this spring, or that the production of heat at the particular spot where it is situate, has ceased to be sufficient to produce the striking phenomena it formerly exhibited.

Having examined several other cavities, I returned to the Geyser, in order to collect specimens of the incrustations on the mount. I selected a fine mass close to the water on the brink of the basin, and had not struck many blows with my hammer, when I heard a sound like the distant discharging of a piece of ordnance, and the ground shook under me. The sound was repeated irregularly and rapidly; and I had just given the alarm to my companions, who were at a little distance, when the water, after heaving several times, suddenly rose in a large column, accompanied by clouds of steam, from the middle of the basin, to the height of ten or twelve feet. The column seemed as if it burst, and sinking down it produced a wave, which caused the water to overflow the basin in considerable quantity. The water having reached my feet, I was under the necessity of retreating, but I kept my eye fixed on what was going on. After the first propulsion, the water was thrown up again to the height of about fifteen

feet. There was now a succession of jets, to the number of eighteen, none of which appeared to me to exceed fifty feet in height; they lasted about five minutes. Though the wind blew strongly, yet the clouds of vapour were so dense, that after the first two jets, I could only see the highest part of the spray, and some of it that was occasionally thrown out sideways. After the last jet, which was the most furious, the water suddenly left the basin, and sunk into a pipe in the centre. The heat of the bottom of the basin made it dry, and the wind blew aside the vapour almost immediately after the spouting ceased. We lost no time in entering the basin to examine the pipe, into which the water had sunk about ten feet, and appeared to be rising slowly. The diameter of the pipe, or rather pit, is ten feet, but near the top it widens to sixteen feet. The perpendicular depth of the basin is three feet; and that of the pipe somewhat more than sixty feet, though there may be some inaccessible hollows which extend to a much greater depth. After the water had descended into the pipe, there was no appearance of any vapour issuing from it, till it had reached the mouth, when a little was visible. Even when the basin was full, the quantity of vapour was far from being so great as might have been expected to proceed from so large a surface of hot water. At five minutes before six o'clock it boiled a little, and continued to do so at intervals. Having thrown a stone into the water while it was perfectly still, we observed that an ebullition immediately took place, and continued till the stone reached the bottom. All the party having provided themselves with large stones, threw them into the pipe, on a signal, when the water was still. When the stones were thrown in, a violent ebullition instantly followed; and this escape of steam, on agitation, may serve to assist a theory of the phenomenon.

At twenty-nine minutes past six o'clock the pipe was full; and the water being within reach, its temperature was found to be 209°. At twenty minutes before seven we looked into

the basin, and it was then hardly one-fourth full. The water was gently moved; and in some little hollows at the bottom of the basin it had the appearance of ebbing and flowing. About five minutes after, while we were collecting specimens on the edge of the basin, and expecting nothing, three jets took place, none of which exceeded thirty feet in height. In the same manner, at a quarter past eight o'clock, jets were thrown up repeatedly during the space of three minutes, one of which was above forty feet high. After these casual jets the water did not sink, but remained in about three-fourths of the basin. Sir John Stanley mentions his having been surprised by similar unexpected jets; and we must take this opportunity of advising travellers, who may wish to see the Geyser, not to be rash in going into the basin while the water is rising, as an opportunity of safely gratifying their curiosity will always occur immediately after every great exertion of the fountain.

We pitched our tent at the distance of about one hundred yards from the Geyser, and having arranged matters so that a regular watch might be kept during the night, I went to my station at eleven o'clock, and my companions lay down to sleep. About ten minutes before twelve, I heard subterraneous discharges, and waked my friends. The water in the basin was greatly agitated, and flowed over, but there was no jet. The same occurred at half past two. At five minutes past four, on Saturday morning, an alarm was given by Mr. Bright. As I lay next the door of the tent, I instantly drew aside the canvas, when at a distance of little more than fifty yards, a most extraordinary and magnificent appearance presented itself. From a place we had not before noticed, we saw water thrown up, and steam issuing with a tremendous noise. There was little water; but the force with which the steam escaped, produced a white column of spray and vapour at least sixty feet high. We enjoyed this astonishing and beautiful sight till seven o'clock, when it gradually disappear-

ed. This fountain we immediately conjectured to be what has been called, by Sir John Stanley, the New Geyser.

We were occupied this morning in examining the environs of the Geysers, and at every step received some new gratification. Following the channel which has been formed by the water escaping from the great basin during the eruptions, we found some beautiful and delicate petrifactions. The leaves of birch and willow were seen converted into white stone, and in the most perfect state of preservation, every minute fibre being entire. Grass and rushes were in the same state, and also masses of peat. In order to preserve specimens so rare and elegant, we brought away large masses and broke them up after our return to Britain; by which means we have formed very rich collections; though many fine specimens were destroyed in carrying them to Reikiavik. On the outside of the mouth of the Geyser, the depositions, owing to the splashing of the water, are rough, and have been justly compared to cauliflowers. They are of a yellowish brown colour, and are arranged round the mount somewhat like a circular flight of steps. The inside of the basin is comparatively smooth; and the matter forming it more compact and dense than the circular crust; and when polished is not devoid of beauty, being of a grey colour, mottled with black and white spots and streaks. The white incrustations formed by the water of the beautiful cavity before described, had taken a very curious form at the edge of the water, very much resembling the capital of a Gothic column. We were so rapacious here, that we did not leave a single specimen which we could reach; and even scalded our fingers in our eagerness to obtain them. We found the process of petrifaction in all its stages; and procured some specimens in which the grass was yet alive and fresh, while the deposition of the silicious matter was going on around it. These were found in places at a little distance from the cavity, where the water running from it had become cold.

About a hundred yards from the great Geyser towards the north, in the cleft where the disruption already mentioned had taken place, and which had probably been formed by an earthquake, are banks of clay, in which there are several small basins full of boiling mud. The mud is thin, and tastes strongly of sulphate of alumina, of which we observed many films attached to the clay, which seems to have been forced up from below, through fissures in the ancient incrustations. The clay contains also iron pyrites; the decomposition of which has given it very rich colours. Almost directly above this place, under the rock at the top of the hill, are several orifices, from which steam rushes, as there are some slight appearances of sulphur. Almost the whole of this side of the hill is composed of incrustations and clay.

The depositions of the present and former springs are visible to a great extent, about half a mile in every direction; and from their great thickness in many places, it is probable that they are spread under the surface now covered with grass and water, to a very considerable distance. About half a mile up the rivulet, in the direction of Haukardal, where there is a church, another hot spring appears, which deposits silicious matter. From thence we obtained one of the most curious specimens we collected; it almost perfectly resembles opal. The situation of this spring is mentioned to shew the probability that the extent of the matter, which may for ages have been collecting, is very great; and its depth, from what is seen in the cleft near the Geyser, where it is visible to the thickness of ten or twelve feet, is probably also very considerable.

However strongly the feelings excited by the productions of the springs, and by the appearance of the surrounding country, were impressed upon us, we often turned anxiously towards the Geysers, longing for a repetition of their wonderful operations. To them all our wishes and hopes were directed; and we felt as if our eyes could never tire of beholding,

nor our minds weary of contemplating them. The descriptions we had read, and the ideas we had formed of their grandeur, were all lost in the amazement excited on their being actually before us; and, though we may perhaps raise their attributes in the estimation of the reader, we are satisfied that we cannot convey the slightest idea of the mingled raptures of wonder, admiration, and terror, with which our breasts were filled; nor do we fear that any conception which may arise of the astonishing effect of the Geysers, will leave the traveller disappointed, who trusts himself to the tempestuous ocean, and braves fatigue, in order to visit what must be reckoned among the greatest wonders of the world.

After yielding a little to impatience, we were gratified by symptoms of commotion in the great Geyser. At three minutes before two o'clock, we again heard subterraneous discharges, and the water flowed over the edge of the basin; but no jet took place. The same happened at twenty-five minutes past five o'clock, and at five minutes before seven. At thirty-five minutes past eight it boiled over again, and immediately the new Geyser began to play, and continued till a quarter past nine. This Geyser gives no warning before it spouts, and it is therefore necessary to be cautious in looking down the pipe, unless it is known what time has elapsed since the preceding jet. While the spray and vapour are rushing out, one may approach with perfect safety, and stand quite close to the very brink of the pipe on the windward side. The pipe is nine feet in diameter, not perfectly round, and rough and uneven within.

Having been busily engaged in packing our specimens, and being somewhat tired, we went to sleep a little earlier than usual. We lay with our clothes on, separated from the ground by sheep-skins and a rug, in order that we might start up at a moment's notice. Mr. Fell and Mr. Flood had left us to return to Reikiavik; and we had soon cause to regret that they had departed before the next eruption of the great

Geyser took place. On lying down we could not sleep more than a minute or two at a time; our anxiety causing us often to raise our heads to listen. At last the joyful sound struck our ears, and we started up with a shout, at the same moment when our guides, who were sleeping in their Iceland tent at a short distance opposite to us, jumped up in their shirts, and hallooed to us. In an instant we were within sight of the Geyser; the discharges continuing, being more frequent and louder than before, and resembling the distant firing of artillery from a ship at sea. This happened at half past eleven o'clock; at which time, though the sky was cloudy, the light was more than sufficient for shewing the Geyser; but it was of that degree of faintness which rendered a gloomy country still more dismal. Such a midnight scene as was now before us, can seldom be witnessed. Here description fails altogether. The Geyser did not disappoint us, and seemed as if it was exerting itself to exhibit all its glory on the eve of our departure. It raged furiously, and threw up a succession of magnificent jets, the highest of which was at least ninety feet. At this time the sketch from which the engraving is made was taken; but no drawing, no engraving, can possibly convey any idea of the noise and velocity of the jets, nor of the swift rolling of the clouds of vapour, which were hurled one over another, with amazing rapidity.

After this great exertion, the water, as before, sunk into the pipe, leaving the basin empty. At seven minutes before seven o'clock on Sunday morning, the Geyser boiled over; and again at twenty minutes past nine; and this was the last time we saw it in motion. In Olasson's and Paulson's Travels we have a description of the Geyser, in which the height of the jet is stated at three hundred and sixty feet. This, making every allowance for deception, is certainly an exaggeration, since, in subsequent observations made at distant periods, we find a striking uniformity. The heights observed at the time Sir Joseph Banks visited Iceland in the year 1772,

are stated by Von Troil, to have been from six to ninety-two feet. Sir John Stanley mentioned the highest jet to have been ninety-six feet. He visited the Geyser in the year 1789. I have stated the heights as varying from ten to at least ninety feet. From these observations it appears that the great Geyser has not failed in magnificence after the lapse of thirty-eight years. Sir John Stanley mentions that the jets rose out of the basin, they reflected by their density the most brilliant blue; and that in certain shades the colour was green. We did not observe any thing of this kind, which probably depended on the position of the spectator, and the brightness of the sun, which scarcely shone while we were near the springs.

At thirty-two minutes past nine the new Geyser began its operations by throwing the water out of the pipe, at three or four short jets, and then some longer ones. As soon as the bulk of the water was thrown out the steam rushed up with amazing force, and a loud thundering noise, tossing the water frequently to a height of at least seventy feet. So very great was the force of the steam, that although a brisk gale of wind was blowing against it, the column of vapour remained as perpendicular as it is represented in the engraving. It proceeded in this magnificent play for more than half an hour, during which time we had an opportunity of taking a correct sketch of this beautiful fountain. A light shower fell from the vapour, which has been attempted to be expressed; but the imitation is very far short of the fine effect it produced. Sir John Stanley saw it throw up water to the height of one hundred and thirty-two feet. When stones are dropped into the pipe while the stream is rushing out, they are immediately thrown up, and are commonly broken into fragments, some of which are projected to an astonishing height.

This Geyser, we were told, had formerly been a comparatively insignificant spring, like many which we saw round. There is no basin round the pipe, but there are some remains

of incrustations on its brink, similar to those round several of the smaller springs. The water constantly boils violently, about twenty feet below the mouth of the pipe; but no subterraneous discharges take place to announce its operations; and this circumstance seems to render a different theory from that of the great Geyser necessary for explaining the phenomena.

This Geyser seems to have undergone a considerable change since the time of the expedition to Iceland, undertaken by Sir John Stanley. "Its pipe," says Sir John, "is formed with equal regularity as that of the great Geyser, and is six feet ten inches in diameter. It does not open into a basin, but it is nearly surrounded by a rim, or a wall two feet high. After each eruption the pipe is emptied, and the water returns gradually into it, as into that of the old Geyser. During three hours nearly that the pipe is filling, the partial eruptions happen seldom, and do not rise very high; but the water boils the whole time, and often with great violence." Sir John further informs us in a note, that before the month of June, 1789, the year he visited Iceland, this spring had not played with any great degree of violence, at least for a considerable time. Indeed, the formation of the pipe will not allow us to suppose that its eruptions had at no former period been violent. But in the month of June, this quarter of Iceland had suffered some very severe shocks of an earthquake; and it is not unlikely that many of the cavities communicating with the bottom of the pipe had been enlarged, and new sources of water opened into them. Our author also says, that the eruptions of the new Geyser resembled those of the great one, consisting of several jets succeeding each other rapidly.

It will be seen from the theory I have formed of the phenomena, that the change has been occasioned by the supply of water to the pipe having become less, while the great reservoir of water, subject to occasional and sudden increase of

heat, remains the same. Each spring seems to have its own reservoirs, and its own mechanism distinct from the others.

There is a small Geyser about one hundred yards from the new one, as it was called by Sir John Stanley, the phenomena of which are scarcely worthy of being described, as after viewing the great Geyser, there is nothing wonderful in them. The description, however, serves to shew what a singular range of cavities and pipes must exist under a small extent of surface, in order to produce the extraordinary effects which have been detailed.

The account of Mr. Hooker, who visited Iceland in the summer of 1809, seems to prove that the waters of these extraordinary springs are sometimes discharged to a much greater height than they were seen to rise by Sir Joseph Banks, Sir John Stanley, and Sir George Mackenzie.

"My tent," says this traveller, "had been pitched at the distance of three or four hundred yards from the Geyser, near a pipe or crater of considerable dimensions, in which I had hitherto observed nothing extraordinary. While I was employed, however, in examining some plants which I had gathered, I was surprised by a tremendously loud and rushing noise, like that arising from the fall of a great cascade immediately at my feet. On putting aside the canvas of my tent, I saw within a hundred yards of me a column of water rising perpendicularly into the air, from the place just mentioned, to a vast height; but what this height might be, I was so overpowered by my feelings, that I did not for some time think of endeavouring to ascertain. In my first impulse I hastened only to look for my portfolio, that I might at least attempt to represent upon paper what no words could possibly give an adequate idea of; but in this I found myself nearly as much at a loss as if I had taken my pen for the purpose of describing it, and I was obliged to satisfy myself with little more than the outline and proportional dimensions of this most magnificent fountain. There was, however,

sufficient time allowed me to make observations; for during the space of an hour and a half, an uninterrupted column of water was continually spouted out to the elevation of *one hundred and fifty* feet, with but little variation, and in a body of seventeen feet in its widest diameter; and this was thrown up with such force and rapidity, that the column continued to nearly the very summit as compact in body, and as regular in width and shape as when it first issued from the pipe; a few feet only of the upper part breaking into spray, which was forced by a light wind on one side, so as to fall upon the ground at the distance of some paces from the aperture. The breeze also at times carried the immense volumes of steam that accompanied the eruption to one side of the column of water, which was thus left open to full view, and we could clearly see its base partly surrounded by foam, caused by the column striking against a projecting piece of rock near the mouth of the crater; but thence to the upper part nothing broke the regularly perpendicular line of the sides of the water-spout, and the sun shining upon it rendered it in some points of view of a dazzling brightness. Standing with our backs to the sun, and looking into the mouth of the pipe we enjoyed a sight of the most brilliant assemblage of all the colours of the rainbow, caused by the decomposition of the solar rays passing through the shower of drops that was falling between us and the crater. Stones of the largest size that I could find, and great masses of the silicious rock which we threw into the crater were instantly ejected by the force of the water; and though the latter were so solid as to require very hard blows from a large hammer, when I wanted to procure specimens, they were nevertheless, by the violence of the explosion, shivered into small pieces, and carried up with amazing rapidity to the full height of, and frequently higher than the summit of the spout. One piece of a light porous stone was cast at least twice as high as the water, and falling in the direction of the column was met by

it, and a second time forced up to a great height in the air. The spring, after having continued for an hour and a half spouting its waters in so lofty a column, and with such amazing force, experienced an evident diminution in its strength; and during the space of the succeeding half hour, the height of the spout varied from twenty to fifty feet: the fountain gradually becoming more and more exhausted, and sometimes remaining still for a few minutes; after which it again feebly raised its waters to the height of not more than from two to ten feet; till at the expiration of two hours and a half from the commencement of the eruption, it ceased to play, and the water sunk into the pipe to the depth of twenty feet, and there continued to boil for some time.

"It was my custom," says the same writer, "during my stay in this place, to cook my provisions in one or other of the boiling springs. Accordingly a quarter of a sheep was put into the Geyser, and Jacob, (Mr. Hooker's servant,) was left to watch it, holding it fastened to a piece of cord, so that as often as it was thrown out by the force of the water, which very frequently happened, he might readily drag it in again. The poor fellow, unacquainted with the nature of these springs, was a good deal surprised, when he thought the meat nearly cooked sufficiently, to observe the water in an instant sink down and entirely disappear. We were therefore obliged to have recourse to another spring, and found, that in all it required twenty minutes to perform the operation properly. It must be remembered, however, that the quarter of an Icelandic sheep is very small, perhaps not weighing more than six pounds, and moreover extremely lean. I do not apprehend that longer time would have been necessary to cook it in an English kitchen. The hot springs of Iceland, at least such of their waters as are exposed to the air, are never at a greater heat than 212° of Fahrenheit."

BOILING FOUNTAINS
IN THE ISLAND OF ST. MICHAEL.

NEARLY ten leagues north-east from Ponta Delgada, in the principal town in the island of St. Michael, one of the Azores, there is situated a small village, called the Furnace, or Caruis, in a spacious valley, which is surrounded by high mountains: towards the south-east end of this valley there is a small elevation, called the Chalieras, or Boilers; this elevation, which may be nearly a quarter of a mile square, consists of a number of hillocks, around which the action of fire is every where evident; in confirmation of which, is discovered a variety of strata, pyrites, lava, pumice, marle, and clay, of different colours, ochre, iron ore, and calcareous earth, mixed with alum and sulphur.

In this spot a number of boiling fountains are met with; many of them warm, and others mineral springs. The hot waters form several streams, and some of these are of considerable depth. In their course they bubble, smoke, and emit sulphureous steams, so that in a calm day the vapour is seen ascending in curling volumes to a great height. The largest of these boiling fountains, called the Caldeira, is about twenty-five to thirty feet in diameter, and, according to the prejudice of the country people, who never sounded it properly, or perhaps never at all, it is said to have no bottom. The water is scalding hot, and in a constant state of ebullition, continually emitting a vapour highly sulphureous, and smelling much like burnt gunpowder. It deposits a clayey sediment of a light blue colour: to the taste it communicates an acescent pungency.

At a few yards distance, behind a ridge of lava, there is another boiling fountain, situated in a cavity at the bottom of a projecting rock, emphatically called the Forga, or Forge. This fountain is second in size, and its surface is seldom visible, being concealed by a very dense sulphureous vapour.

It boils with great violence, and emits a loud blowing interrupted noise, throwing up, at the same time, great quantities of fine glutinous blue clay, mixed with vapour, which is scattered to a distance, and is observed to incrust the rock and other neighbouring objects.

At a distance, the noise of these boiling fountains resembles the sound of kettle-drums. Those described are the largest two, but there are many others, and vapour issues out in many places from the crevices of the rocks and banks. In some places, where it is scarcely perceptible, the noise of boiling water, on approaching the ear to the fissure, may be distinctly heard. In other places the water is squirted out at intervals, and actually scalds those who unwarily go too near them. In many places so hot is even the ground, that it cannot be stood upon without inconvenience and pain: it is also every where covered with crude sulphur, and a piece of bright silver, on being exposed to the air, is immediately changed to a gold colour. But the temperature of these fountains is not all of the same high degree; some of them are of a moderate heat, and others are quite cold.

It is common for the country people to place their culinary utensils over the hot fountains, or upon some of the steaming crevices, and thus they save the expense of fuel in preparing their victuals. Experience has even taught the cattle to approach this place, and clear themselves of vermin, by standing on the hillocks amid the sulphureous steam.

Duncan's Med. Comments, 1791, *and*
Gourlay's Nat. Hist. of Madeira, 1811.

BOILING PIT NEAR GLASGOW.

NOVEMBER 8, 1763. Near Glasgow, in Scotland, is a coal pit, which has been burning under ground for some years, and near it is an old pit full of water, which, by the force of the fire, boils like a cauldron. Into this boiling pit a man fell, in the darkness of the night, and when found by his friends

the next morning, was so boiled, that on taking him out, his flesh fell from his bones. [*Ann. Reg.* 1763, p. 110.

ACCOUNT OF ELIZABETH WOODCOCK, AND HER REMARKABLE DELIVERANCE, AFTER BEING BURIED IN SNOW EIGHT DAYS AND EIGHT NIGHTS.

In the temperate climate of England we may justly boast an exemption from most of those natural calamities with which many other regions of the globe are frequently and severely visited. No earthquakes, hurricanes, or volcanoes, overthrow our cities and lay waste our fields; no seas of burning sands inundate our smiling plains; no armies of locusts frustrate the toil of the husbandman; and no fiery sirocco renders the air unfit for respiration. Neither pestilence nor famine sweeps off our population, and we suffer little inconvenience from extremes of heat or cold. Owing to this happy situation, such accidents as that recorded in the following pages, are fortunately of very rare occurrence.

Elizabeth Woodcock, aged forty-two years, went on horseback from Impington, where she resided, to Cambridge, on Saturday, being market-day, the 2d of February, 1799. On her return home in the evening, between six and seven o'clock, being about half a mile from her own house, her horse started at a sudden light, which proceeded, most probably, from a luminous meteor, a phenomenon which, at this season of the year, is not uncommon. She was herself struck with the light, and exclaimed, "Good God! what can this be!" It was a very inclement stormy night; a bleak wind blew boisterously from the north-east. The ground was covered by the great quantities of snow that had fallen during the day, yet it was not spread uniformly over the surface. The deepest ditches were many of them completely filled up, whilst in the open fields there was but a thin covering; but in the roads and lanes, and many narrow and enclosed parts, it had accumulated to a considerable depth, no where yet so as to render

the ways impassable, but still enough to retard and impede the traveller. The horse, upon his starting, ran backward, and approached the brink of a ditch, which the poor woman recollected, and, fearing lest the animal in his fright should plunge into it, very prudently dismounted with all expedition. Her intention was to walk, and lead the horse home; but he started again, and broke from her. She repeated her attempt to take hold of the bridle; when the horse, still under the impression of fear, turned suddenly out of the road, and directed his steps to the right, over the common field. She followed, in hopes of quickly overtaking him, but, unfortunately, lost one of her shoes in the snow. She was already wearied with the exertion she had made, and besides, had a heavy basket on her arm, containing several articles of domestic consumption, which she had brought from market. By these means her pursuit of the horse was greatly impeded; she however persisted, and followed him through an opening in a hedge, a little beyond which she overtook him (about a quarter of a mile from the place where she alighted,) and, taking hold of the bridle, made another attempt to lead him home. But she had not retraced her steps farther than a thicket, which lies contiguous to the said hedge, when she found herself so much fatigued and exhausted, and her hands and feet, particularly her left foot, which was without a shoe, so very much benumbed, that she was unable to proceed farther. Sitting down then upon the ground in this state, and letting go the bridle, "Tinker," she said, calling the horse by his name, "I am too much tired to go any farther, you must go home without me!" The ground on which she sat was upon a level with the common field, close under the thicket on the south west. She well knew the situation of it, and what was its distance from and bearing with respect to her own house. There was then but a small quantity of snow drifted near her; but it was beginning to accumulate, and did actually accumulate so rapidly, that, when Chesterton bell rang at eight

Mrs. Elizabeth Woodcock,
found buried in the Snow, Feb. 10 1799,
near Cambridge.

Pub. March 10 1813 by R. S. Noby, 21, London house Yard.

transmitted the light. When she put out her handkerchief she broke it; in consequence of which the external air being admitted, she felt herself very cold. On the second morning it was again closed up in a similar manner, and continued so till the third day, after which time it remained open. She perfectly distinguished the alterations of day and night; heard the bells of her own and some of the neighbouring villages, several different times, particularly that of Chesterton, which rings every night at eight o'clock, and four in the morning, during the winter half of the year, Sundays excepted, and is at the distance of nearly two miles from the place where she sat. She was sensible of the living scene around her, frequently noticing the sound of carriages upon the road, the natural cries of animals, such as the bleating of sheep and lambs, and the barking of dogs. One day she overheard a conversation carried on by two gypsies, relative to an ass which they had lost. She afterwards specified, it was not their asses, in general terms, that they were talking about, but some particular one; and her precision in this respect has been confirmed by the acknowledgment of the gypsies themselves. She recollected having pulled out her snuff-box and taken two pinches of snuff, but, what is very strange, she felt so little gratification from it, that she never repeated it. A common observer would have imagined the irritation arising from the snuff would have been peculiarly grateful to her, and that, being deprived of all other comforts, she would have solaced herself with those which the box afforded, till the contents of it were exhausted. Possibly, however, the cold she endured might have so far blunted her powers of sensation that the snuff no longer retained its stimulus. At another time, finding her left hand beginning to swell, in consequence of her reclining, for a considerable time, on that arm, she took two rings, the tokens of her nuptial vows twice pledged, from her finger, and put them, together with a little money which she had in her pocket, into a small box, sensi-

bly judging that, should she not be found alive, the rings and money, being thus deposited, were less likely to be overlooked by the discoverers of her breathless corpse. She frequently shouted out, in hopes that her vociferations reaching the ears of any that chanced to pass that way, they might be drawn to the spot where she was. But the snow so far prevented the transmission of her voice, that no one heard her. The gypsies, who passed nearer to her than any other persons, were not sensible of any sound proceeding from her snow-formed cavern, though she particularly endeavoured to attract their attention.

When the period of her seclusion approached to a termination, and a thaw took place on the Friday after the commencement of her misfortunes, she felt uncommonly faint and languid; her clothes were wet quite through by the melted snow; the aperture before mentioned became considerably enlarged, and tempted her to make an effort to release herself; but, alas! it was a vain attempt; her strength was too much impaired; her feet and legs were no longer obedient to her will, and her clothes were become very much heavier by the water which they had imbibed. Now, for the first time, she began to despair of ever being discovered or taken out alive; and she declared that, all things considered, she could not have survived a continuation of her sufferings for the space of twenty-four hours longer. It was now that the morning of her emancipation was arrived, her sufferings increased; she sat with one of her hands spread over her face, and fetched the deepest sighs; her breath was short and difficult, and symptoms of approaching dissolution became every hour more alarming.

On Sunday, the 10th of February, a young farmer, whose name is Joseph Muncey, in his way home from Cambridge, about half past twelve o'clock, crossed over the open field, and passed very near the spot where the woman was. A coloured handkerchief, hanging upon the tops of the twigs, where it

was before said she had suspended it, caught his eye; he walked up to the place, and espied an opening in the snow. It was the very aperture which led to the prisoner's apartment, and which was sufficiently large to afford the woman space enough to move herself about three or four inches in any direction, but not to stand upright, being only about three feet and a half in height, and about two in the broadest part. He heard a sound issue from it, similar to that of a person breathing hard and with difficulty. He looked in, and saw a female figure, whom he recognized at once to be the identical woman who had been so long missing. He did not speak to her, but, seeing another young farmer and the shepherd at a little distance, he communicated to them the discovery he had made, upon which, though they scarcely gave any credit to his report, they went with him to the spot. The shepherd called out, "Are you there, Elizabeth Woodcock?" She replied, in a faint and feeble accent, "Dear John Stittle, I know your voice; for God's sake help me out of this place!" Every effort was immediately made to comply with her request. Stittle made his way through the snow till he was able to reach her; she eagerly grasped his hand, and implored him not to leave her. "I have been here a long time," she observed. "Yes," answered the man, "ever since Saturday." "Aye, Saturday week," she replied; "I have heard the bells go two Sundays for church." An observation which demonstrably proves how well apprized she was of the duration of her confinement.

Mr. Muncey and Mr. Merrington, junior, during this conversation, were gone to the village to inform the husband, and to procure proper means for conveying her home. They quickly returned, in company with her husband, some of the neighbours, and the elder Mr. Merrington, who brought with him his horse and chaise-cart, blankets to wrap her in, and some refreshment, which he took it for granted she would stand in peculiar need of. The snow being a little more

cleared away, Mr. M. went up to her, and upon her entreaty, gave her a piece of biscuit and a small quantity of brandy, from both of which she found herself greatly recruited. As he took her up to put her into the chaise, the stocking of the left leg, adhering to the ground, came off. She fainted in his arms, notwithstanding he moved her with all the caution in his power. But nature was very much exhausted; and the motion, added to the impression which the sight of her husband and neighbours made upon her, was too much for her strength and spirits. The fit, however, was but of short continuance; and when she recovered, he laid her gently in the carriage, covered her well over with the blankets, and conveyed her, without delay or interruption, to her own house.

When the horse came home, her husband and another person set out on the road with a lantern, and went quite to Cambridge, where they only learnt that she left the inn at six that evening. They explored the road afresh that night, and for four succeeding days, and in vain searched the huts of the gypsies, who, as they suspected, might have robbed and murdered her, till she was unexpectedly discovered in the manner already mentioned.

Mr. Okes, a surgeon, first saw her in the cart, as she was removing home. She spoke to him with a voice tolerably strong, but rather hoarse; her hands and arms were *sodden*, but not very cold, though her legs and feet were, and the latter, in a great measure, mortified. She was immediately put to bed, and weak broth given her occasionally. From the time of her being lost she had eaten only snow, and believed she had not slept till Friday the 8th; her only evacuation was a little water. The hurry of spirits, occasioned by too many visitors, rendered her feverish; and her feet were found to be completely mortified, from being frost-bitten before she was covered with snow. She was so disturbed with company that Mr. Okes had little hope of her recovery. He ordered

a clyster of mutton broth, which greatly relieved her, some saline mixture, with antimonial wine and strong decoction of bark, and three grains of opium in the course of a day. He opened the vesications on her feet, and continued the use of brandy as at first; clysters, opium, and bark, being continued with port wine. The cold had extended its violent effects from the end of the toes to the middle of the instep, including more than an inch above the heels, and all the bottom of the feet, which were mortified, and were poulticed with stale beer and oatmeal boiled together. Inward cold, as she called it, affected her, and she desired the cataplasms might be renewed as often as possible, and very warm. The 19th and 20th she was seized with violent diarrhœa, which occasioned great weakness; and, two days after, several toes were so loose as to be removed by the scissars. The 23d she was taken up without fainting. All the toes were removed, *and the integuments from the bottom of one foot,* except a piece at the heel, which was so long before it loosened itself, that the os calcis and tendo achillis had suffered. The sloughs on the other foot were thrown off more slowly, and two of the toes removed. All but one great toe was removed by the 17th; and, on removing the sloughs from the heels, the bone was bare in many places; and, wherever the mortification had taken place, was one large sore, very tender. The sores were much diminished, and the great toe taken off, by the end of March, and an unusual sleepiness came on. By April 17, the sores were free from slough, and daily lessened; her appetite was tolerably good, and her general health began to amend; but, with all these circumstances in her favour, she felt herself to be very uncomfortable; and, in fact, her prospect was most miserable. For, though her life was saved, the mutilated state in which she was left, without even a chance of ever being able to attend to the duties of her family, was almost worse than death itself; for, from the exposure of the os calcis, in all probability it would have required some months

before the bottoms of her feet could be covered with new skin; and, after all, they would have been so tender as not to bear any pressure: the loss too of all her toes must have made it impossible for her to move herself but with the assistance of crutches. Mr. Okes ascribes the preservation of her life to her not having slept or had any evacuations under the snow, and to her resignation, and the calm state of her mind. Death put an end to her sufferings, July 13, 1799.

The too free use of spirituous liquors is supposed to have been the cause both of the extraordinary accident and its fatal consequences.

ACCOUNT OF THE FALL OF A HUGE MASS OF SNOW FROM THE ALPS OF PIEDMONT IN ITALY; AND OF THREE WOMEN OVERWHELMED BY IT IN A STABLE, FROM THE RUINS OF WHICH THEY WERE EXTRACTED ALIVE, AFTER A CONFINEMENT OF THIRTY-SEVEN DAYS.

THE following narrative is compiled from the authentic relations published at Turin, by Dr. Somis, physician to his Sardinian Majesty, and Dr. Joseph Brune, professor of philosophy at Turin, as given in the *Annual Register* for 1765, (*Nat. Hist.* p. 85.) and in the *Philosophical Transactions*, vol. xlix. p. 796.

It has been observed of the Alpine snows, that even on declivities of more than forty-five degrees to the horizon, they slide off in a body, as soon as the earth under them has melted enough of the contiguous layer to acquire a certain degree of slipperiness; and so tumble headlong over any precipice they may meet with, to rest where they happen to fall; or else, by having their direction gradually changed, drive a considerable distance into the plain, and even over any little slope that may stand in their way, beating down

every thing before them with irresistible violence. Sometimes, too, a very considerable quantity of snow happens to be whirled about by the wind, with sufficient force to tear up the thickest and stoutest trees from their roots, to beat down animals to the ground, and to suffocate them, as is too often the case with persons who are indiscreet enough to attempt the passing of the Alps, especially of Mount Cenis, at a time judged improper by those who continually reside in such situations, and can therefore foretell, by certain signs, the sudden rise of these terrible whirlwinds.

The heaps of snow which thus fall by their own weight, or are whirled about by the wind, are called valancas by the Alpineers, who but too often experience the fatal effects of them. In the months of February and March, of the year 1755, there had been at Turin a great fall of rain; and, as it generally snows in the mountains when it only rains in the plain, it cannot appear surprizing, that during this interval, there fell vast quantities of snow in the mountains, which, of course, formed several valancas. The bad weather prevailed likewise at Bergemoletto, a little hamlet seated in that part of the Alps, which separates the valley of Stura and Piedmont from Dauphiné and the county of Nice.

On the 19th of March, many of the inhabitants of this hamlet began to apprehend that the weight of the snow, which was already fallen, and still continued to fall, might crush their houses, built with stones peculiar to the country, and held together by nothing but mud, and a very small portion of lime, and covered with thatch laid on a roof of shingles and large thin stones, supported by thick beams. They therefore got upon their roofs to lighten them of the snow. At a little distance from the church stood the house of Joseph Roccia, a man of about fifty, who, with his son James, a lad of fifteen, had, like his neighbours, got upon the roof of his house, in order to lessen the weight on it, and thereby pre-

vent its destruction. In the mean time, the clergyman, who lived in the neighbourhood, and was about leaving home in order to repair to the church, and gather the people together to prayers, perceiving a noise towards the top of the mountains, looked up, and descried two valancas driving headlong towards the village. He therefore called out to give Joseph notice instantly to come down from the roof to avoid the impending danger; and then immediately retreated himself into his own house.

Joseph Roccia immediately came off the roof at the priest's notice, and with his son ran as fast as he could towards the church. He had scarcely advanced forty steps, when hearing his son fall just at his heels, he turned about to assist him. But, by the time he had taken him up, the spot on which his house, his stable, and those of some of his neighbours stood, was covered with a prodigious mass of snow, which so completely overwhelmed them that, not the least sign of either walls or roofs could be perceived. Such was his agony at this sight, that at the thoughts of having lost in an instant his wife, his sister, his family, and the little he had saved, he swooned away, and sunk senseless upon the snow. His son now helping him in his turn; as soon as he came to himself he made shift to get to a friend's house, at a small distance from the spot where he fell. Mary Anne, his wife, who was standing with her sister-in-law Anne, her daughter Margaret, and her son Anthony, a little boy two years old, at the door of the stable looking at the people throwing the snow from off the houses, and waiting for the ringing of the bell that was to call them to prayers, was about taking a turn to the house in order to light a fire, and air a shirt for her husband, who could not but want that refreshment after his hard labour. But before she could set out she heard the priest cry out to them to come down quickly; and raising her eyes saw the valancas set off, and roll down the side of the

mountain; at the same instant she heard a terrible report from another quarter, which made her retreat back quickly with her family, and shut the door of the stable. Happy it was for her that she had time to do so; this noise being occasioned by another immense valanca, the sole cause of all the misery and distress she had afterwards to suffer, so that, in a very short time, the snow was lodged, about forty-two feet in height, two hundred and seventy in length, and sixty in breadth.

The inhabitants of Bergemoletto, whom it pleased God to preserve from this disaster, being gathered together in order to sum up their misfortunes, first counted thirty houses overwhelmed; and then, every one calling over those he knew, twenty-two souls were missing, of which number was their parish priest, who had lived among them forty years. The news of this terrible disaster soon spread over the neighbourhood; and all the friends and relations of the sufferers, with many others, to the amount of three hundred, flocked of their own accord from the adjacent villages, to give their assistance on this melancholy occasion. Joseph Roccia, notwithstanding his great love for his wife and family, and his desire to recover part of what he had lost, was in no condition to assist them for five days. In the mean time, the rest were trying if, by driving iron rods through the hardened snow, they could discover any roofs; but they tried in vain; the great solidity and compactness of the valanca, its vast extent, together with the snow that continued to fall in great quantities, frustrated all their efforts; so that, after some days labour, they were obliged to desist till the valley should begin to assume its pristine form by the setting in of the warm winds, which continue to blow from the end of March till about the 20th of April. The latter month proving hot, and the snow beginning to soften, Roccia, assisted by his son and two brothers-in-law, made new

openings, and threw in earth to hasten the melting of the snow, which by the 24th of April was greatly diminished. They broke through ice six feet thick with iron bars, put down long poles, and at length reached the ground, but without finding the house.

By this time all the other persons who were missing had been discovered dead, and no doubt was entertained that Roccia's family had shared the same fate. Early on the morning of the 25th he was joined by one of his brothers-in-law, who told him that the preceding night his wife had dreamed that her sister was still living. Encouraged by this favourable omen to prosecute their search, they both went to work, and made an opening which led to the house; but no dead bodies were found in its ruins. Upon this, knowing that the stable did not lie above one hundred feet from the house, they immediately directed their search towards it, and, having a long pole, he heard a hoarse and languid voice issue from the bottom, which seemed to say, "Help, my dear husband; help, my dear brother, help." The husband and brother, thunderstruck, and at the same time encouraged by these words, fell to their work with redoubled ardor on the place whence the voice came, which grew more and more distinct as the work advanced. It was not long before they made a pretty large opening, through which the brother descended as into a dark pit, asking who it was that could be alive in such a place? Mary Anne knew him by his voice, and answered with a trembling and broken accent, intermixed with tears of joy, "It is I, my dear brother, who am still alive in company with my daughter and my sister-in-law, who are at my elbow. God, in whom I always trusted, still hoping that he would inspire you with the thoughts of coming to our relief, has been graciously pleased to keep us alive." The passage being enlarged, they were taken out with all convenient speed; and brought

to a friend's house, and there treated on a thin diet, and in small quantities at a time, as best suited their state of inanition. When their strength was a little recruited, they gave the following account of the manner in which they had been supported during their long imprisonment.

It appears that Roccia's wife, Mary Anne, her sister-in-law Anne, her daughter Margaret aged about thirteen, and her son Anthony about six years old, had gone to the stable to carry some rye-flour gruel to a she-goat, which had the night before brought forth two dead kids. In the stable were five other goats, an ass, and five or six fowls. Having attended the goat, they stood for a few minutes at the door of the stable, waiting till the ringing of the bell should summon them to prayers. The wife heard the alarm given by the priest, and looking up beheld an immense mass of snow rolling down the side of the mountain. At the same instant a terrible report proceeded from another quarter, which made her quickly retreat with her family into the stable, and shut the door. In less than three minutes they heard the roof break over their heads, and were involved in total darkness. By the advice of the sister they all got into the rack and manger, which being under the main prop of the stable, resisted the weight of the snow, and afforded some degree of security. The ass, which was tied to the manger, had broken loose from it, and in kicking and struggling threw down a little vessel in which they used afterwards to melt the snow that served them for drink.

In this dismal situation their first care was to ascertain what they had to eat. They remembered that there were thirty-six or forty cakes in a place near the stable, and endeavoured to get at them, but found it impossible on account of the snow. The sister had fifteen chesnuts in her pocket; each of the women ate two, and the children, having previously breakfasted, had nothing more that day. They often

called for help, but were heard by none. The ass was restless, and the goats kept bleating, for some days; after which they heard no more of them. Two of the goats however being left alive, and near the manger, they felt them, and found that one of them was big, and would kid, as she recollected, about the middle of April; the other gave milk, wherewith they preserved their lives. During all this time they saw not one ray of light, yet for about three weeks they had some notice of night and day from the crowing of the fowls, till they died.

The second day, being hungry, they ate all the chesnuts, and drank what milk the poor goat yielded, being very near two pounds a-day at first, but it soon decreased. The third day they again attempted, but in vain, to get at the cakes, and therefore resolved to take all possible care to feed the goats: for just above the manger was a hay-loft, whence through a hole the sister pulled down hay into the rack, and gave it to the goats as long as she could reach it, and then when it was beyond her reach the goats climbed upon her shoulders and reached it themselves.

On the sixth day the boy sickened, and six days after desired his mother, who all this time had held him in her lap, to lay him at his length in the manger. She did so, and taking him by the hand, felt it was very cold. She then put her hand to his mouth, and finding that cold likewise, she gave him a little milk; the boy then cried, "Oh, my father is in the snow; oh, my father, father!" and then expired.

Meanwhile the goat's milk diminished daily, and the fowls soon after dying, they could no longer distinguish night from day; but according to their reckoning the time was near when the other goat should kid, which at length they knew was come by its cries. The sister helped it; and they killed the kid to save the milk for their own subsistence. Whenever they called this goat, she would come and lick

their hands and faces, and yielded them every day two pounds of milk, on which account they afterwards bore the poor creature a great affection. During all this time, hunger gave them but little uneasiness, except for the first five or six days. The greatest inconvenience which they suffered arose from the extreme coldness of the melted snow water that fell on them, from the stench of the dead ass, goats, fowls, &c. and from lice; but, above all, from the very uneasy posture to which they were confined, the manger where they sat squatting against the wall being no more than three feet four inches wide. After the first two or three days they had no evacuation by stool; the melted snow water and milk were discharged by urine. The mother said she had never slept, but the sister and daughter declared they slept as usual.

These sufferers were relieved by the munificence of the king of Sardinia, their sovereign, and several donations from other hands, which enabled them to rebuild their house, and set their other affairs to rights. In April 1757, they all enjoyed perfect health, except Mary Anne, who still laboured under dimness of sight, occasioned by her being too hastily exposed to the light. The others soon returned to their usual labours, and continued to lead the same life as they did before their misfortune.

REMARKABLE CASE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION, FOR SEVENTEEN DAYS.

A MOST extraordinary case of suspended animation occurred in 1808, in the person of Mary Anning, a girl between ten and eleven years of age, residing at Burton Bradstock, in the county of Dorset. She had been weakly and unwell from the beginning of April, in the above-mentioned year, when at the latter end of May and beginning of June, she

was seized with a kind of phrenzy, or delirium, which lasted about twelve or fourteen hours, when she suddenly lost her speech, and about two days after her sight; at which time there was a considerable discharge from her mouth. Her mother left her for a few minutes, and on her return found her stretched out quite motionless, as if dead, or dying. In this insensible state she lay for seventeen days and nights, as in a sound sleep, or swoon; at intervals there was some appearance of breath, and a small degree of warmth; at other times she would feel cold; but her flesh continued firm, and the faint breathing she had was quite cold. Many attempts were made to introduce warm tea and diluted spirits into her mouth; but it was doubtful if any passed into her stomach. During this cold and lifeless state she was prepared as a corpse. On the seventeenth day symptoms of returning life appeared; and in about ten or twelve hours a faint trembling convulsion appeared in her fingers, which lasted about an hour, when one of her eyes also became convulsed, opened, and then closed again; in about two hours more she attempted to speak, and the first words she uttered were, in a faint voice, "O! what a good Lord we have got." Soon after both her eyes opened; and, in a short space of time, as her strength would allow, she repeated, in a low voice, the whole of the sixth Psalm, new version. By slow degrees she was able to swallow diluted teas, and to eat soft food, which enabled her gradually to recover her strength. During the suspension of nature, no evacuations took place, nor did the appearance of her face and hands alter.

On her recovery she related, that at intervals she was sensible of what was passing: she likewise remembered her speech and motion failing her, and was also sensible when both returned; and described them as first seizing her tongue; upon which animation was gradually restored. She afterwards continued in as good state of health as formerly, rather of a delicate habit, but no other way affected.

REMARKABLE PRESERVATION OF LIEUTENANT GEORGE SPEARING, WHO FELL INTO A COAL-PIT, WHERE HE REMAINED SEVEN DAYS AND NIGHTS WITHOUT FOOD.

THE following narrative of the circumstances attending the misfortune of Lieutenant Spearing are particularly interesting, as coming from his own pen. They are given in a letter to a friend, written by him in Greenwich Hospital, and dated August 1, 1793; and though twenty-four years had then elapsed from the accident which he describes, it will not excite any wonder, that he should still retain so distinct a recollection of what he might justly consider as the most remarkable event in his life.

You have so often importuned me to commit to writing the story of my misfortune and providential preservation, that I have now determined to comply with your solicitations. From the long lapse of time since it happened, it will not appear surprising if some circumstances should escape my memory, but you may depend upon it that I will relate no more than the truth, so far as recollection can justify the assertion.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, 1769, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, I went into a little wood called Northwoodside, situated between two and three miles north-west of Glasgow, with a design to gather a few hazel-nuts. I think that I could not have been in the wood more than a quarter of an hour, nor have gathered more than ten nuts, before I unfortunately fell into an old coal-pit exactly seventeen yards deep, which had been made through solid rock. I was some little time insensible. On recovering my recollection, I found myself sitting nearly as a tailor does at his work, the blood flowing pretty fast from my mouth; and I thought that I had broken a blood-vessel, and consequently had not long to live; but to my great comfort, I soon disco-

vered that the blood proceeded from a wound in my tongue, which I supposed I had bitten in my fall. Looking at my watch (it was ten minutes past four), and getting up, I surveyed my limbs, and to my inexpressible joy found that not one was broken. I was soon reconciled to my situation, having from my childhood thought that something very extraordinary was to happen to me in the course of my life, and I had not the least doubt of being relieved in the morning; for the wood being but small, and situated near a populous city, it was much frequented, especially in the nutting season, and there are several foot-paths leading through it.

Night now approached, when it began to rain, not in gentle showers but in torrents of water, such as are generally experienced at the autumnal equinox. The pit into which I had fallen was about five feet in diameter; but not having been worked for several years, the subterraneous passages were choked up, so that I was exposed to the rain, which continued with very small intermissions till the day of my release; and indeed in a very short time I was completely wet through. In this comfortless condition I endeavoured to take some repose. A forked stick that I found in the pit, and placed diagonally to the side of it, served to support my head as a pillow, or occasionally my body, which was much bruised; but in the whole time I remained here I do not think that I ever slept one hour together. Having passed a very disagreeable and tedious night, I was somewhat cheered with the appearance of day-light, and the melody of a robin-red-breast that had perched directly over the mouth of the pit. This pretty little warbler continued to visit my quarters every morning during my confinement, which I construed into a happy omen of my future deliverance; and I sincerely believe the trust I had in Providence, and the company of this little bird, contributed much to that serenity of mind which I constantly enjoyed to the last. At the distance of about one hundred yards, in a direct line

from the pit, there was a water-mill. The miller's house was nearer to me, and the road to the mill was still nearer. I could frequently hear the horses going this road to and from the mill; frequently I heard human voices; and I could distinctly hear the ducks and hens about the mill. I made the best use of my voice on every occasion, but it was to no purpose; for the wind, which was constantly high, blew in a line from the mill to the pit, which easily accounts for what I heard; and at the same time my voice was carried the contrary way. I cannot say I suffered much from hunger. After two or three days that appetite ceased, but my thirst was intolerable; and though it almost constantly rained, yet I could not, till the third or fourth day, preserve a drop of it, as the earth at the bottom of the pit soaked it up as fast as it ran down. In this distress I sucked my clothes, but from them I could extract very little moisture. The shock which I received in the fall, together with the dislocation of one of my ribs, kept me, I imagine, in a continual fever; I cannot otherwise account for my suffering so much more from thirst than I did from hunger. At last I discovered the thigh bone of a bull, which, as I afterwards heard, had fallen into the pit about eighteen years before me, almost covered with the earth. I dug it up, and the large end of it left a cavity that might, I suppose, contain a quart. Into this the water gradually drained, but so very slowly, that it was a considerable time before I could dip a nut-shell full, which I emptied into the palm of my hand, and so drank it. The water now began to increase pretty fast, so that I was glad to enlarge my reservoir, insomuch, that on the fourth or fifth day I had a sufficient supply; and this water was certainly the preservation of my life.

At the bottom of the pit there were great quantities of reptiles, such as frogs, toads, large black snails or slugs, &c. These disagreeable creatures would frequently crawl about me, and often got into my reservoir; nevertheless I thought

it the sweetest water I had ever tasted, and at this distance of time the remembrance of it is so sweet, that were it now possible to obtain any of it, I am sure I could swallow it with avidity. I have frequently taken both frogs and toads out of my neck, where I suppose they sought shelter while I slept. The toads I always destroyed, but the frogs I carefully preserved, as I did not know but I might be under the necessity of eating them, which I should not have scrupled to do had I been very hungry.

Saturday the 16th, there fell but little rain, and I had the satisfaction to hear the voices of some boys in the wood. I immediately called out with all my might, but in vain; though I afterwards learned that they actually heard me, but, prepossessed with an idle story that a wild man resided in the wood, ran away affrighted.

Sunday, the 17th, was my birth-day, when I completed my 41st year; and I think it was the next day that some of my acquaintance, having accidentally heard that I had gone the way I did, sent out two or three porters purposely to search the pits for me. These men went to the miller's house, and made inquiry for me; but on account of the heavy rain at the time never entered the wood, and cruelly returned to their employers, telling them that they had searched the pit, and I was not to be found. Many people in my dismal situation would, no doubt, have died with despair; but I thank God, I enjoyed a perfect serenity of mind, so much so, that on the Tuesday afternoon, when I had been six nights in the pit, I very composedly, by way of amusement, combed my wig on my knee, humming a tune, and thinking of Archer in the Beaux Stratagem.

At length, Sept. 20, the morning, the happy morning for my deliverance came—a day that, while my memory lasts, I will always celebrate with gratitude to heaven. Through the brambles and bushes that covered the mouth of the pit, I could discover the sun shining bright, and my pretty war-

bler was chanting his melodious strains, when my attention was roused by a confused noise of human voices, which seemed to be approaching fast towards the pit; I immediately called out, and most agreeably surprized several of my acquaintance who were in search of me. Many of them are still living in Glasgow, and it is not long since I had the very great satisfaction of entertaining one of them at my apartments. They told me that they had not the most distant hope of finding me alive, but wished to give my body a decent burial, should they be so fortunate as to find it. As soon as they heard my voice they all ran towards the pit, and I could distinguish a well-known voice, which exclaimed—"Good God! he is still living!" Another, though a very honest North Briton, could not help asking me in the Hibernian style, if I were still living. I told him I was, and hearty too, and then gave them particular directions how to get me out. Fortunately at that juncture a collier from a working pit in the neighbourhood was passing along the road, and hearing an unusual noise in the wood, his curiosity prompted him to enquire the occasion. By his assistance and a rope from the mill, I was soon safely landed on terra firma. The miller's wife had very kindly brought some milk warm from the cow; but on my coming into the fresh air, I grew rather faint, and could not taste it. Need I be ashamed to acknowledge, that the first dictates of my heart prompted me to fall on my knees, and ejaculate a silent thanksgiving to the God of my deliverance; since, at this distant time, I never think of it but the tear of gratitude starts from my eye?

Every morning while I was in the pit I tied a knot in the corner of my handkerchief, supposing that if I died there and my body should be afterwards found, the number of knots would certify how many days I had lived. Almost the first question asked me by my friends was, how long I had been in the pit. I immediately drew my handkerchief from

my pocket, and bade them count the knots. They found seven, the exact number of nights I had been there. We now hastened out of the wood. I could walk without support, but that was not allowed, each person striving to shew me how much he rejoiced to find me alive and so well. They led me to the miller's house, where a great number of people were collected to see me. A gentleman who had a country-house just by, very kindly at my request sent for a glass of white wine. I ordered a piece of bread to be toasted, which I soaked in the wine and ate. I now desired the miller's wife to make me up a bed, fondly thinking that nothing more was wanting than a little refreshing sleep to terminate my misfortune. But, alas! I was still to undergo greater sufferings than any I had yet endured. By the almost continual rains, together with the cold damp arising from the wet ground on which I lay, and not being able to take the least exercise to keep up a proper circulation of the blood, my legs were much swelled and benumbed. Some of my friends observing this, proposed to send to Glasgow for medical advice. I at first declined it, and happy had it been for me if I had pursued my own inclinations; but unfortunately for me a physician and surgeon were employed, both of them ignorant of what ought to be done. Instead of ordering my legs into cold water, or rubbing them with a coarse towel, to bring on a gradual circulation, they applied hot bricks and large poultices to my feet. This treatment, by expanding the blood vessels too suddenly, put me to much greater torture than I had ever endured in my life, and not only prevented me from enjoying that refreshing sleep which I so much wanted, but actually produced a mortification in both feet. I do not mean, by relating this circumstance, to reflect on the faculty in general at Glasgow, for I was afterwards attended by gentlemen who are an honour to the profession. The same method was pursued for several days, without even giving me the bark, till I men-

tioned it myself. This happily stopped the progress of the mortification, which the doctors did not know had taken place till the miller's wife had shewn them a black spot about as broad as a shilling, at the bottom of my left heel. In a day or two more the whole skin, together with all the nails of my left foot and three from my right foot, came off like the fingers of a glove.

Opposite to the mill on the other side of the river there was a bleach-field. It is customary for the watchmen in such places to blow a horn to frighten thieves. This I frequently heard when I was in the pit; and very often when I was in a sound sleep at the miller's I have been awakened by it in the greatest horrors, still thinking myself in the pit; so that, in fact, I suffered as much by imagination as from reality. I continued six weeks at the miller's, when the roads became too bad for the doctors to visit me, so that I was under the necessity of being carried in a sedan chair to my lodgings in Glasgow. By this time my right foot was quite well; but in my left, where the black spot above-mentioned appeared, there was a large wound, and it too plainly proved that the *os calcis* was nearly all decayed, for the surgeon could put his probe through the centre of it. The flesh too at the bottom of my foot was quite separated from the bones and tendons, so that I was forced to submit to have it cut off. In this painful state I lay several months, reduced to a mere skeleton, taking thirty drops of laudanum every night: and though it somewhat eased the pain in my foot, it was generally three or four in the morning before I got any rest. My situation now became truly alarming: I had a consultation of surgeons, who advised me to wait with patience for an exfoliation, when they had not the least doubt but they should soon cure my foot. At the same time they frankly acknowledged that it was impossible to ascertain the precise time when it would happen, as it might be six and even

twelve months before it came to pass. In my emaciated condition I was certain that it was not possible for me to hold out half the time, and knowing that I must be a very great cripple with the loss of my heel bone, I came to a determined resolution to have my leg taken off, and appointed the very next day for the operation; but no surgeon came near me. I sincerely believe they wished to perform a cure; but being, as I thought, the best judge of my own feelings, I was resolved, this time, to be guided by my own opinion: accordingly, on the 2d of May, 1770, my leg was taken off a little below the knee. Though I had so long endured the rod of affliction, misfortunes still followed me. About three hours after the amputation had been performed, and when I was quiet in bed, I found myself nearly fainting with the loss of blood; the ligatures had all given way, and the arteries had bled a considerable time before it was discovered. By this time the wound was inflamed; nevertheless, I was under the necessity of once more submitting to the operation of the needle, and the principal artery was sewed up four different times before the blood was stopped. I suffered much for two or three days, not daring to take a wink of sleep; for the moment I shut my eyes, my stump, though constantly held by the nurse, would take such convulsive motions, that I really think a stab to the heart could not be attended with greater pain. My blood too, was become so very poor and thin, that it absolutely drained through the wound near a fortnight after my leg was cut off. I lay for eighteen days and nights in one position, not daring to move, lest the ligature should again give way; but I could endure it no longer, and ventured to turn myself in bed, contrary to the advice of my surgeon, which I happily effected, and never felt greater pleasure in my life. Six weeks after the amputation, I went out in a sedan chair for the benefit of the air, being exactly nine months from the day on which I fell into

the pit. Soon afterwards I took lodgings in the country, where, getting plenty of warm new milk, my appetite and strength increased daily; and to this day, I bless God, I enjoy perfect health, and have since been the happy father of nine children.

ANDREW WHISTON,

A REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF PERSONAL DEFORMITY.

It would furnish a topic for a novel and interesting discussion, to enquire whether it would not be both prudent and politic in the government of every country to prohibit the appearance in public of persons distinguished by any ghastly deformity, or mutilation. Though, on the one hand, any restriction imposed on these unfortunate creatures might justly be regarded as a punishment inflicted on innocent victims to the caprices of nature, and the cruelty of chance; yet, when we consider on the other, the many deplorable and well authenticated instances of the power of imagination during pregnancy, and the shock received by numberless females in that situation, from suddenly encountering objects of the class to which we are alluding, we shall be almost tempted to deem it a duty incumbent on the legislature to consult the benefit of future generations as well as the interest of the state, in adopting certain precautions that may tend to diminish the sum of human calamities.

These reflections are suggested by the subject of the annexed engraving, Andrew Whiston, who was born at Dundee, in Scotland, February 10, 1770, and has, during the last twenty years, resided in London. To many of our readers the person of this man must be perfectly familiar. Having lodged, during the last four years, at No. 4, Paris Gardens, near Bankside, he is always to be seen in that neighbourhood,

on the east side of the Surrey Road. He forms altogether a disgusting little figure, pushing himself about on a small cart which moves upon wheels, and wearing an apron to conceal the deformity of his legs, which are horrible in the extreme. His whole height, including his cart, does not exceed two feet. To avoid the penalties attached to begging and vagrancy, he carries a few pens stuck between his coat and waistcoat, and declares that the dealing in those articles is the only trade to which he has been brought up.

It is not improbable, that by means of this, and other arts and mysteries which he exercises, Andrew has been enabled to procure something more than *salt to his porridge*. From the description that has been given of him no reader will suspect that his person is calculated to excite the tender passion; it must therefore be to the idea of his having accumulated money that we are to attribute the following circumstance:—A short time since Andrew began to think seriously of taking unto himself a wife, and having looked round among his female acquaintance for a desirable partner, he fixed his choice on a Mrs. Marshall, the widow of a waterman, who follows the trade of a retail dealer in fish, at the corner of Spiller's public house, on that side of the Surrey Road which he usually frequents. This fair lady, who might perhaps have been *dead as a roach* to his addresses if he had had nothing but his deformed person to offer, proved *leaping alive ho!* at the thought of Andrew's little hoard, of which she hoped to become mistress. Several presents attested the seriousness of the lover's proposals, and his charmer was all compliance to his wishes, till he had actually sent the money to pay for publishing the banns at Christ Church, when the ridicule of all her acquaintance urged her to abandon the design of so preposterous a match.

ACCOUNT OF THE ASTONISHING FORTITUDE OF PHINEAS ADAMS, WHO FEIGNED INSENSIBILITY, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN HIS DISCHARGE FROM THE MILITIA.

THE particulars of this very extraordinary case, as communicated to the public by the *Taunton Courier* of July 18 and Sept. 12, 1812, are as follow:—About the beginning of that year, Phineas Adams, a private of the First Somerset Regiment of Militia, applied for surgical aid in consequence of an ulcerated wound in his arm. On examination, it was quite evident, that the ulcer was occasioned by his own contrivance through blistering. Upon his recovery, which was considerably protracted by his conduct, influenced, no doubt, by the hope that his case would be pronounced incurable, and that consequently he would be discharged, he deserted from his regiment. Upon his apprehension he was committed to the gaol at Wilton, near Taunton, where he was attended by a medical gentleman, in consequence of a wound which he then exhibited on his leg, and which there is much reason to suppose was artificially produced.

On the 24th of April, he fell down a flight of stone steps, and such was the violence of his fall that he severely injured a man with whom he came in contact, and was himself taken up with blood oozing from one of his ears. Being conveyed to bed he appeared to have suffered no material injury; but, a day or two afterwards he observed to the medical gentleman who attended him, that he thought he was getting deaf. The succeeding day he made the same remark, accompanied with an observation, that he was considerably more deaf than the day before. Believing this to be a new stratagem to accomplish his purpose, the medical gentleman asked him in a lower tone of voice, "Are you very

deaf?" To which the man replied, "Yes, very deaf." Intimation was then given him that his object was understood, and would of course be defeated. Immediately after this, Adams fell into a state of profound insensibility, and so remained for a space of nearly three months! From that time the sustenance he received was very slight, consisting entirely of tea, broths, and occasionally of small portions of bread and butter.

On the 24th of April the accident happened; on the 25th his pulse was very hard, and indicated inflammation of the brain, upon which he was bled, and the symptoms abated. The following day, in consequence of his pulse increasing, he was again bled; from which period he remained in the state already described. His head and back were blistered, without producing any sensible effect; *aperients* and *enemas* proved alike unavailing; and strong electrical shocks produced no bodily sensation. His pulse was generally regular, but wanted tone. The pupil of his eye was in a slight degree dilated, and his respiration easy; nor was it interrupted from the commencement. The skin was uniformly moist; but the bowels torpid, with only one instance to the contrary, in six weeks. Every mode of arousing him from the insensible state in which he lay entirely failed. Snuff was thrust up his nostrils, and pungent salts applied, neither of which produced any other effect than that of a secretion from his eyes. At last, it was determined to try on him the *nitrous oxyd gas;* the operation of which is known to occasion so extraordinary a degree of mental and bodily excitation. The tube affixed to the bladder containing the gas, was applied to the man's mouth; but his teeth were so firmly closed, that all efforts to open them proved fruitless. His nostrils and lips were then compressed, and every means taken to prevent his inhaling any air but the gaseous fluid. This attempt was persevered in until his pulse became interrupted, evidently from his desisting to breathe, and no

other effect in consequence resulted from the experiment.

A few days after the preceding account appeared, Phineas Adams, the subject of this curious narrative, and whose age was no more than *eighteen*, on the 6th of June 1812, was removed from the gaol, in which he then was, to the parish of Bickenhall, a small village, seven miles from Taunton. His parents resided in that place, but as they were unable to receive him in their own habitation, Adams was lodged in the Poor-house, a small cottage adjoining to the churchyard. In this situation he continued to lie without exhibiting the least evidence of any improving condition. When his limbs were raised, they fell with the leaden weight of total inanimation; his eyes were closed, and his countenance evinced the paleness of death, though divested of any of the concomitant symptoms of approaching dissolution. His respiration continued free, and his pulse maintained its character of a healthful tone. The sustenance he received consisted entirely of eggs diluted with wine, and occasionally with tea, which he sucked in through his teeth—all attempts, forcible as some of them were, to compel him to open his mouth having been repeated in vain; and various experiments were again made to excite sensation without effect, particularly by thrusting pins into his finger nails.

In this hopeless condition he was visited by Mr. Welch, surgeon, of Taunton; who suggested the propriety of performing the operation of *scalping* the patient, with a view to ascertain whether the fall, to which the illness was attributed, might not have produced a depression on the brain. The proposal was communicated to the parents of Adams, who expressed their willingness that the experiment should be made. Accordingly, at the time appointed, the surgeon accompanied Adams's father to the bed-side of his son, and there, in the presence of several respectable persons, described to both the young man's parents the nature and pre-

cise course of operation about to be performed. Old Adams then shaved his son's head. The incisions were made—the scalp drawn up—and the head examined—during all which time the young man manifested no audible symptoms of pain, or sensibility of suffering whatever, until the application of an instrument, with which the head was scraped in a particular part, and then, and once only, he uttered a groan. No beneficial result appearing from this experiment, as his case seemed absolutely remediless, application was made to his regiment for his discharge.

On Tuesday, August the 20th, the discharge arrived, and was taken over to Bickenhall by the serjeant. On the Tuesday following (the 27th) old Adams brought his son down in his arms; and on the 28th, he again brought him down, the son still remaining insensible. The next night (the 29th) he was seen sitting in the Poor-house, with a gun in his hand, conversing with his father; and on Friday the 30th, (our readers will participate with us in the complete astonishment excited by the fact) he was at Mr. Palmer's, farmer at Thurlbear, two miles from Bickenhall, cutting spart, carrying reed up a ladder, and assisting his father in thatching a rick! Next day (the 31st) he was in the barn of Mr. Cozens, of Bickenhall, with a pick in his hand, killing mice; and on Sunday the 1st Sept. Mr. Cozens himself met him in a neighbouring copse gathering nuts!

On the morning of Friday, Aug. 30th, young Adams walked into the cottage of Martha Cozens, who lives next door, and adjoining to the Poor-house. She expressed great surprize at the suddenness of his recovery, and asked him how he was able to undergo so much suffering? to which he answered, that he had no recollection of having experienced any. She then asked him, if he did not recollect feeling any pain when the surgeon was scraping his head? To which he replied, "he perfectly recollected that."

The extraordinary rapidity of this young man's recovery,

after obtaining his discharge from the regiment, having excited, in combination with other circumstances which are stated above, an opinion that imposition had been practised, some of the neighbours reported that a press-gang was coming for him. This, it is supposed, reached his ears, as he absconded, and not a syllable has been heard of him since. Both Adams and his son have long been considered as notoriously bad characters in the parish where they reside.

When the degree of suffering, to which this young man submitted in various forms, and the term of misery to which he devoted himself (a period of between four and five months) are considered, it is hardly possible not to pronounce his case to be one which, for unsubdued resolution, craftiness of plan, and perseverance of exertion, is beyond all parallel in the records of systematic villany. In a better cause it might be recorded as Spartan virtue.

THE REMARKABLE CASE OF KATE HUDSON, WHO VOIDED AND HAD EXTRACTED FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF HER BODY, MANY NEEDLES, PINS, AND PIECES OF BONE.

KATE HUDSON, whose truly astonishing case is detailed in the following pages, was born in 1752, at Arnold in Nottinghamshire. Her parents being very poor, she was taken when quite young by an uncle, named White, who was sexton of St. Mary's Church, Nottingham. Here she used to assist in sweeping and cleaning the church, and in the course of her employment found great quantities of pins and needles, and contracted a habit of putting them in her mouth. This practice, though often checked for it, she never could be made to relinquish; the consequence was, that she from time to time swallowed many of the pins and needles which she picked up. A mantua-maker, a neighbour of her uncle's,

shewed a partiality for Kate, who was often at her house, where the greatest pains were taken to break her of her unlucky propensity; which however she seized every opportunity of indulging. When grown up she was taken into the service of another mantua-maker and milliner, in Castle-gate, Nottingham, and there too she continued the habit which she had contracted, though she now began to suffer pain from the needles and pins which she had swallowed. The severe afflictions that were the natural result of so dangerous a practice at length obliged her to have recourse at several different times to the hospital. The minutes of her case, preserved in the books of that institution, cannot but excite the utmost surprise that she should not merely survive such complicated sufferings, but even obtain a perfect recovery. After her final discharge from the hospital she returned to Arnold, and took up the occupation that had been followed by her mother and grandmother, that of delivering letters backwards and forwards, between the last-mentioned place and Nottingham.

In a letter, transmitted with the minutes extracted from the books of the hospital, by Dr. Hugh Moises to Dr. Bradley, and inserted in the seventh volume of the *Medical and Physical Journal*, he thus expresses himself:—

"DEAR SIR,

"In giving the following case, I faithfully transcribe the minutes taken by the physicians and surgeons of the general hospital, Nottingham, under whose immediate care the patient, (Kate Hudson,) was received at her different admissions. As at some periods of her disease, frequent consultations were held, the minutes were more carefully made and preserved at those periods; while at others, when the symptoms were considered as less urgent, little, or very unsatisfactory notice is taken of them. To this may be added, the unfortunate loss of one of the books, to which I was in conse-

quence excluded a reference at the time I collected the case into my place-book.

"I had formerly mentioned the outlines of the case to many professional men, who held deserved rank in the medical world, and of whom I might say, with Cicero, that they were

'Interiores et reconditæ literæ.'

I, however, found that the tide of scepticism might hurry me into endless controversy, without a prospect of any practical advantage being derived from the discussion. With these impressions I hesitated to make the case public, (as it was my intention to have done at the Lyceum Medicum, in 1798,) well knowing that,

'Philosophi ætatem in litibus conterunt.'

"In respect to the facts of this remarkable case, Dr. Storer, Mr. Wright, Mr. Bigsby, Mr. Attenborrough, Mr. Thompson, and every other professional man in the town of Nottingham, who were resident there at the time, are in full possession of, and are at liberty to confirm or contradict any part of my statement, according as I may be found correct or otherwise. I believe it was the intention of Dr. Snowden White, then senior physician to the hospital, to have published it; but his premature death, from phthisis hæmoptoïca, I suppose, prevented his carrying his intention into execution. It has, therefore, hitherto been but lamely communicated to a few practitioners; nor can I detail it in the manner I could wish, for reasons already given.

"The preserved facts of the case are before you, and for being facts, I might pledge myself to you in the language of Terence,

'Liquet mihi dejerare.'

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"16th *Nov.* 1801." "HUGH MOISES, M.D."

Here follow the Doctor's extracts, but with the omission of such parts as appear to be rather of professional than general interest.

'Kate Hudson, a single woman, aged 31, was admitted into the general hospital, Nottingham, on the 4th of August, 1783, for an inflammatory affection of the right arm. On inspection of the arm two needles were discovered under the skin, a little above the dorsal side of the wrist. They lay in a transverse direction, and were readily extracted by pushing the points through the skin, and laying hold of them with a pair of forceps. Upon a more minute examination, some more needles were felt about three inches higher up the forearm, but farther back than the others, and more over the flexor muscles; these lay longitudinally, and appeared to have their heads downwards. These needles were extracted as before, a small puncture with a lancet having been previously made. (Of the number of the last-mentioned needles I find no mention.)

'August 6. Another needle is felt plainly a little below the former place.

'7th. The nurse, in attempting to extract one from her leg has broken it, and left part of it in. A large needle has been taken away from her foot, which was lying across her instep, and among the tendons.

'October 11. A very large darning needle was this day extracted from her right breast, seemingly buried within a part of the gland; thinks she feels another needle very deep seated under the gland in the middle of the breast; complained of great pain in the breast after the removal of the needle, which, in about an hour afterwards, became so excessive as to throw her into convulsions.

'November 1. The convulsions have continued at periods till now; the needle still appearing to lie very deep within the breast; and about three days ago her jaws became locked; very weak and low; pulse small and weak; made an incision

quite through the breast, and extracted a large needle, which adhered to the tendinous fascia, covering the pectoral muscle.' From this last report I find none other until

'January 12, 1784. Has now very severe pains in the breast.

'February 3. Passed a pin yesterday by urine, which was not coated, or particularly corroded; and this day, with the same excretion, passed a needle. Had much pain in the sphincter vesicæ before and during the passage, and the urine bloody, though less so to day.

'5th. Passed another needle yesterday by urine.

'11th. The breast healing fast, less pain, and the needle not easily distinguishable; has had pain in the throat and vomiting, which brought up blood; feels still an obstruction in swallowing.

'12th. Brought up a needle by vomiting.

'14th. Had a needle extracted from her breast.

'16th. Complains of pain in the lower part of the thorax, betwixt the ribs, but nothing to be felt.

'19th. Pain now in her breast, as when a needle was there before; that between the ribs gone off.

'March 19. The needle in the breast to be extracted.

'22d. It passed into the thorax during the operation; part of the gland, which was schirrous, was removed.

'26th. No pain from the needle; breathing easy.

'29th. Felt the needle in her stomach, and threw up a considerable quantity of congealed blood.

'April 5. Has had no pain from the needle since last report; breast healing.

'8th. Continues mending; no symptom of any more pins or needles.

'26th, Quite well; dismissed cured.

'May 7. Is re-admitted. About a week since was taken with pain, a pricking sensation at the stomach, and vomited a matter which consisted of a solution of a pin, similar to

what she passed by urine, with some streaks of blood, attended with external inflammation, with two small ulcers, which are now much better.

'10th. Procured no rest; complains of great pain in the stomach, and thinks she feels two or three pins or needles, and that they change their position.

'11th. Brought up three pins, two corroded, one not much so.

'21st. Yesterday threw up matter similar to what came from her stomach when the pins were there; complains of much pain in her stomach, but no pricking felt, except when pressed; feels as if matter discharged from the part into the stomach.

'29th. Feels more pain at her stomach, as if there were pins and needles.

'June 2d. Yesterday brought up a pin; still feels pain and pricking at her stomach.

'5d. Brought up four pins together, and one singly before these.

'9th. Complains of pain in her breast.

'17th. Much pain in her stomach; two pins or needles to be felt on each side of her stomach. One needle taken out this day.

'29th. Dismissed relieved.

'August 11. Re-admitted. On Friday last threw up a pin from her stomach; since easier there, but had pain in her right breast. One needle taken out from the surface, but has continued pain from one deep seated in the same breast, with spasms, and jaw stiff.

'20th. Great pain in the breast, and in the jaw, which was locked.

'22d. A splinter came away from the inner angle of the lower jaw on the right side; violent pain in her breast.

'26th. For several days has complained of great pain in her breast; and describes it to be as if several pins were

lodged in the mamma and pectoral muscle, and lying between the two ribs.

'30th. The right mamma was extirpated this day, in the middle of which a needle was found closely impacted; an hæmorrhage taking place in the evening, the dressings were removed, and a small artery was taken up; a pin was found in the dressings.

'September 4. Complained of pain; the dressings were partially removed; another pin was sticking to the dressings; four other pins were also discovered in the wound, which were removed without difficulty. One of the pins having lost the head, her perception was so accurate as to distinguish it before removing the dressings.

'6th. On removing the dressings two pins were found adhering to them.

'7th. Two more pins were found lodging on the dressings this day, together with a plum stone, which she swallowed two days ago.

'12th. Complains of much pain, which she thinks is owing to a piece of bone working its way along the sinus to make its exit at the wound. The piece of bone she imagines is about half an inch long, and rather thicker.

'13th. This morning it came away exactly as she had described it, and appears to be part of one of the ribs; she still complains of much pain, and thinks there is another piece of bone making its way to come out. This evening the other piece of bone came away, covered as she had described it; and appears to be the end of one of the ribs, covered with a vast number of insects of the grub kind.

'14th. A great number of grubs came away with the dressings this day.

'15th. A small piece of bone came away with the dressings; complains of much pain, as if there were several more pieces to come away.

'16th. This morning another piece of bone came away, rather larger than that of yesterday.

'17th. Complains of much pain and prickings in the part.

'18th. Two pieces of bone came away covered with a cartilaginous substance; from the kind of pain she feels, thinks there is another large piece of bone that will soon come away.

'19th. This morning the large piece of bone came away as she had described it; almost every thing she eats or drinks still escapes through the sinus.

'20th. The wound looks well; no food has passed the sinus to day.

'21st. This morning four small pieces of bone came away, and there was also a considerable quantity of food on the dressings; not so faint and low.

'22d. Five small pieces of bone came away with the dressings.

'23d. She is much easier to day, and very little food has passed through the sinus.

'24th. Thinks the rib from which the exfoliation has taken place, is now detached from the back bone.

'27th. The rib feels to her as though it were broken into several pieces. One piece of carious bone came away this day.

'30th. One piece of bone came away on the 28th. Yesterday two bones came away, portions of the rib; feels as if more were lodged at the œsaphagus; feels as if a gathering was coming on lower on the ribs; three pieces of the carious rib came away this morning.

'October 1. This morning thirty-four pieces of bone were working their way through the sinus.

'6th. This morning a portion of bone, about three quarters of an inch in length, of a curved form with points, was discharged by stool.

'8th. Can get but little rest, from a universal soreness of the right side, which she describes as if her ribs were falling out of their sockets.

'12th. Had nothing come away from the sore till to day, a few pieces of bone (no number specified in my minutes;) complains of great pain in the stomach, as if a large piece of bone was there.

'14th. This morning brought up a large piece of bone; complains of great soreness of the œsophagus.

'19th. Feels now as if pins, or a piece of bone, were penetrating the bladder, or the right side of the neck of the bladder.

'November 9. Breast healing on the outside, but yet feels pain internally, as though there were bones in it.

'15th. Felt as if a bone rose from her stomach; she thinks the bones came from her left breast, which is now healed, except a small ulcer.

'December 26. Discharged, cured.

'March 8, 1785. On re-admission she complains of great pain in her left eye, that she describes as proceeding from her breast on that side; the eye-lid much swollen and inflamed, and one part of it has put on the appearance of eschar, that has been observed in other parts of the body to terminate in excoriation.

'11th. The right eye is now in the same state as the other, and equally painful.

'14th. A considerable quantity of blood was taken by leeches; the swelling and inflammation is nearly gone.

'21st. She has complained of pains in the right side for several days, extending along the course of the right ureter, and this morning says it has stopped the discharge of urine. On examination, a piece of bone was found lodged in the upper part of the vagina, on the right side of the os uteri, and was extracted.

'30th. To this time the symptoms have remained much

the same, and five pieces of bone have been extracted, at different times, since the 21st instant. N. B. One of the pieces was found making its passage into the vagina, at the part above-mentioned, and after extraction the aperture was large enough to admit the point of a finger.' From this report I do not find any minute until

'October 18. Dismissed, cured.

'January 3, 1786. Re-admitted; fell down stairs; head and side much bruised.

'February 3. Extracted four bones from the vagina, the whole about an inch long, to appearance exfoliations of the ribs. Complains of great pains in the side, as if more bones were making their way downwards.

'4th. Extracted three bones lying across, and considerably farther within the vagina. The last bone seemed to be retained about half its length within the sinus, from which they are supposed to make their exit at the lower part between the os uteri and rectum.

'17th. After making water complains of lacerating pain of the right side, as if pieces of bone were still moving downwards to the vagina; and having alternate symptoms of pyrexia, sickness, pain at the stomach, &c. with hardness and swelling externally, where she supposes another needle to be deep-seated. Several pieces of bone of unequal sizes, some one inch in length, and half in breadth, (about twelve in number) in their appearance like a divided portion of rib, putrid, blackish, and covered with offensive matter, some of them partially remaining within the sinus, betwixt the rectum and uterus, others loose within the vagina, have been extracted at different times since the 4th.

'Upon examining the matter brought up by vomiting, some small insects were observed in the mass, which was of a darkish colour; very low and weak.

'18th. Still complains of violent pain, as if more bones were passing. Extracted three pieces; within the middle of

one portion, (to appearance rib) of about one quarter of an inch in length, and half an inch in breadth, a large pin was found running longitudinally through part of its substance, and firmly impacted. She thinks more bones are working downwards the same way.

'19th. Extracted a very small needle from the fore part of the leg, near the outer angle; and from the deep-seated pain near the same part, she fancies a pin is lodged.

'20th. Have extracted another portion of bone, nearly one inch in length and half an inch broad, from out of the vagina, having two pins running parallel to each other, in the same manner as in the report of the 18th. Feels more bone.

'25th. Complains of very lacerating, pricking pain all last night. Have removed a portion of bone, having a pin running through its substance longitudinally; and another portion three-fourths of an inch in length, and half an inch in breadth, with a pin running transversely through it, forming a right angle.

'March 3. Removed two narrow portions of bone, about one inch in length and one-fourth of an inch in breadth; one portion having two pins impacted longitudinally, the other only one. Thinks the whole of the loosened bones from the ribs are discharged, as she is free from lacerating pains.

'5th. Complains of pain in the bowels, as if a bone was passing through them; stools very black.

'8th. Upon examination the stools were found very black and a pin was discovered at the bottom of the vessel, discoloured, and seemingly in part dissolved by a menstruum.

'18th. Pain in the right leg from a pin.

'April 20th. Violent pain in her bowels with continual purging; has discharged two pins, with some fragments of bone, by stool.

'21st. Extracted some portions of bone (no number mentioned) from the sinus in the vagina, through one of which a pin was driven.

'May 1. Great pain in her right breast, pricking as if several pins were buried deep; the glandular parts enlarged and hard; can feel two or three seemingly buried in the middle of these indurated glands.'

(From the 4th of May we find no report until)

"July 26, 1792. I have this day been credibly informed by a neighbour and relation of Kate Hudson, that she is married, has two fine children, and enjoys better health than for several years past.

"At present," concludes Dr. Moises, "I shall make no comment on the case: I feel it, however, a duty I owe to myself, (and to anticipate the attacks of puny criticism) that I should here observe, that the language of the case throughout, is strictly that of the minutes preserved in the case-books of the hospital, as taken thence by myself upwards of ten years ago."

PARTICULARS OF A

FLOATING ISLAND

THAT APPEARED IN DERWENT-WATER, CUMBERLAND.

FROM the bottom of the lake of Derwent-water an island has emerged three times in the course of about thirty years, or according to other accounts, it has been in the habit of repeating its visits after an interruption of seven or nine years. It began to emerge on the 20th of July, 1808, and, in a very short time, appeared above the surface. It is situated at the head of the Keswick lake, about a stone's cast from the shore. It contains about an acre of ground, and is quite stationary. At first it was of a dark brown colour, but soon became covered with verdure. By thrusting a pole in several places to the depth of three yards the water rushed up, consequently it is of that thickness, and unconnected with the bottom. That it is also unconnected with the shore is evident, as boats sailed entirely round it, and people sounded

with long poles without finding a bottom. It is of an oblong shape; and in the middle of it is a large hole, about eight yards long, and two broad, evidently made by the confined rarefied air. The depth of soil composing it, is in some parts two feet, and in others more; and in forcing a stick through it in different places, air rose in large bubbles: and as this confined air escapes, the island, it appears, lessens, and at length sinks by its own weight, to the bottom of the lake. Its sides adhere to the neighbouring soil with a steep descent, except at one corner, about six yards in length, which appears like a bank. This bank has actually been the remains of the sides of a hole of a former island; for these temporary islands are found to change their positions at every appearance; and the present is somewhat nearer the shore than the former ones have been. The plants which form the vegetation are lobelia dortmanna, the isoetes lacustris, the lettorella lacustris, the arundo fragmites, and the scirpus lacustris. A secondary island made its appearance about the same time, at some distance from the principal one, and nearer the shore, of a circular form, about eight yards in diameter, and divided completely in two by a rent of about one yard wide, and three yards deep, reaching to a considerable distance on each side of this island, and evidently being one of those numerous cracks which may always be discovered in the bottom of this part of the lake, which we presume is a communication of the waters beneath with those above. The island gradually sunk during some weeks, till the night of Friday, the 7th of October, when, in consequence of rain, the lake arose about five feet, and the island was covered with water. The lake rose above a foot higher on the 7th of August than on the 1st of October, and yet the island was larger in extent, and higher above the water than on the former day.

County Ann. Reg. 1809.

THE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

"I have not asserted this liquid to be blood, because I had not an opportunity of being sure that it was so, and I wished to record facts only, and not opinions. I believe it, however, to have been blood, in which the head rested. It gave to writing paper, and to a white handkerchief, such a colour as blood, which has been kept for a length of time, generally leaves behind it. Nobody present had a doubt of its being blood; and it appears from Mr. Herbert's Narrative, that the king was embalmed immediately after decapitation. It is probable, therefore, that the large blood vessels continued to empty themselves for some time afterwards. I am aware that some of the softer parts of the human body, and particularly the brain, undergo, in the course of time, a decomposition, and will melt. A liquid, therefore, might be found after long interment, where solids only had been buried; but the weight of the head, in this instance, gave no suspicion that the brain had lost its substance; and no moisture appeared in any other part of the coffin, as far as we could see, excepting at the back part of the head and neck.

"The back part of the scalp was entirely perfect, and had a remarkably fresh appearance; the pores of the skin being more distinct, as they usually are when soaked in moisture; and the tendons and ligaments of the neck were of considerable substance and firmness. The hair was thick at the back part of the head, and in appearance nearly black. A portion of it, which has since been cleaned and dried, is of a beautiful dark brown colour. That of the beard was a redder brown. On the back part of the head, it was not more than an inch in length, and had probably been cut so short for the convenience of the executioner, or perhaps by the piety of friends soon after death, in order to furnish memorials of the unhappy king.

"On holding up the head, to examine the place of separation from the body, the muscles of the neck had evidently retracted themselves considerably; and the fourth cervical

vertebra was found to be cut through its substance transversely, leaving the surfaces of the divided portions perfectly smooth and even; an appearance which could have been produced only by a heavy blow, inflicted with a very sharp instrument, and which furnishes the last proof wanting to identify King Charles the First.

"After this examination of the head, which served every purpose in view, and without examining the body below the neck, it was immediately restored to its situation, the coffin was soldered up again, and the vault closed. Neither of the other coffins had any inscription upon them. The larger one, supposed on good grounds, to contain the remains of King Henry the Eighth, measured six feet ten inches in length, and had been inclosed in an elm one, of two inches in thickness; but this was decayed, and lay in small fragments near it. The leaden coffin appeared to have been beaten in by violence about the middle; and a considerable opening in that part of it exposed a mere skeleton of the king. Some beard remained upon the chin, but there was nothing to discriminate the person contained in it.

"The smaller coffin, understood to be that of QUEEN JANE SEYMOUR, was not touched; mere curiosity not being considered, by the PRINCE REGENT, as a sufficient motive for disturbing these remains.

"On examining the vault with more attention, it was found that the wall at the west end, had, at some period or other, been partly pulled down and repaired again, not by regular masonry, but by fragments of stones and bricks, put rudely and hastily together without cement."

AN ACCOUNT OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SHOWER OF BLACK DUST, THAT FELL IN THE ISLAND OF ZETLAND, OCTOBER 20TH, 1755, RELATED IN A LETTER FROM SIR ANDREW MITCHELL, BART. OF WESTSHORE, TO JOHN PRINGLE, M.D. F.R.S.

IN volume three of our work we gave an account of a shower of black dust falling between Shetland and Iceland; the following are further particulars of the same phenomenon.

"In compliance with your desire I made particular enquiry, whether at or about the time the earthquake happened at Lisbon, Nov. 1, 1755, any uncommon phenomena were observed to appear in the islands of Orkney or Zetland, as such had happened about that time in other parts of Scotland. From Orkney I was informed, that nothing particular had happened, only, that about the time mentioned, the tides were observed to be much higher than ordinary. I received from Zetland a letter, dated May 28, 1756, from Mr. William Brown, master of the grammar school, at Scalloway, in that country, a sensible and observing man; wherein he writes, verbatim, as follows:—

'Blessed be God, notwithstanding the great devastations that have been made in other parts of the world by earthquakes, we have been entirely free from any disaster of that nature; nor has any thing extraordinary happened in this country since you left it, only, on Monday, October 20th, last, between three and four in the afternoon, the sky being very hazy, as it used to be before a storm of thunder and lightning, there fell a black dust all over the country, though in greater quantities in some places than in others. It was very much like lampblack, but smelled strongly of sulphur. People in the fields had their faces, hands, and linen black-

ened with it. It was followed by rain. Some people assign the cause of it to some extraordinary eruption of Hecla.'

Phil. Trans. vol. lxiv. p. 297.

"In June, 1756, I returned to Zetland, and found what Mr. Brown had written me was attested by Mr. Mitchell, parson of the parish of Tengwall, and by several gentlemen of credit and reputation, who had seen and observed the same phenomenon in different parts of the country at the time above-mentioned.

"I found the wind had blown south-west, which does not seem to favour the opinion, that the dust proceeded from an eruption of Mount Hecla, which lies north-west from Zetland."

Ann. Reg. 1758, p. 349.

A SHOWER OF YELLOW DUST.

April 19, 1761. The wind being south-west, between eleven and twelve at noon, there fell at Bourdeaux, a shower of yellow powder, resembling the flour of brimstone, but of a little deeper colour, which soon lay a quarter of an inch deep in many parts of the city. The inhabitants, having never seen the like, were greatly alarmed; their minds were possessed with a thousand frightful ideas. Pure sulphur could proceed from nothing but some dreadful volcano; they expected torrents of fire to follow the eruption, and every minute to see the earth open and swallow them all. In a word, the final dissolution was thought to be at hand.

While the multitude were foolishly terrified with their own chimeras, our physicians, and some other sensible citizens coolly collected this powder, examined it with attention, viewed it through a microscope, and soon discovered the simplicity of the phenomenon. It was nothing more than the dust or powder of the stamina of the flowers of pines,

which abound in the lands situate on the south of Bourdeaux, a strong south-west wind having doubtless blown off great quantities of this dust, brought it hither, and spread it over the city.

Some more fell on the 21st, and the wind continuing to blow very hard, it has been again examined by a microscope, and appeared like the first, to come from the stamina of the pine flower. All, therefore, surprising in this is, that the like thing should not be remembered to have been seen in Bourdeaux, since the same apparent causes have subsisted a long time.

Ann. Reg. 1761, p. 112.

GREAT DAMAGE DONE IN A SHORT TIME, BY RAIN FREEZING AS IT FELL.

FEBRUARY 13, 1766. At Wooburn Abbey, Bedfordshire, and the places adjacent, there was a violent storm; and the rain froze as it fell upon the trees, by which means the branches of the trees, particularly in the park of his Grace the Duke of Bedford, were broken down by the weight of the ice, to the amount of some hundred loads. The damage done was incredible.

Ann. Reg. 1766, p. 67.

February 14, 1766. Extract of a letter from a gentleman on the Cotswold Hills.

"After thirty hours small drizzling rain, which froze as fast as it fell, our trees are so loaded with ice, that near one hundred and fifty lime trees in the park of Powell Snell, Esq. at Guiting, are torn to pieces; and a great number of fir trees of near fifty years' growth, are broken off fifteen or eighteen feet. You may judge of the immense weight upon the trees,

when you are told, that a very trifling twig from an hawthorn-bush was so enveloped with ice, that it weighed seven ounces and a half, and the twig which collected it (when cleared of all the ice) weighed no more than a drachm. A poor wood pigeon left all the feathers of its tail frozen to the branch on which it roosted.

The accounts we have received of the effects of this most extraordinary disposition in the air to rain and freeze, would exceed all credibility, were it not authenticated by the most undeniable proofs. In the parish of Hawling alone, three hundred waggon loads are the least estimate of the limbs broken from the trees there. At Birdlip, on Thursday night, a peacock belonging to Mr. Biggs, was frozen on the branch where it was at roost; the branch broke, and in the morning the bird was found almost dead with the cold, and the ice congealed to its tail weighed one hundred pounds. Nor has this evil been confined to our bleak hills. People from the other side of the country, towards Herefordshire, inform us that it was shocking to hear the crashing of the trees, and to behold the devastation that it made.

Ann. Reg. 1766, p. 61.

NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE AND EXTRAORDINARY PEDESTRIAN PERFORMANCES OF CAPTAIN BARCLAY.

It has been well observed by Mr. Walter Thom, in his preface to his entertaining work on Modern Pedestrianism, that "the republics of Greece prepared their youth for the duty of the field by their gymnastic institutions; and the Romans were exercised by long marches, running, leaping, and throwing the javelin. But with the soldiers of Britain a different system prevails. While stationed at home they are

allowed to waste their time in indolent repose, and prevented from taking even that degree of exercise which is requisite to health, lest they should exhaust the most trifling of their necessaries before the return of the usual period of supply. All the advantages they might derive from a course of training are thus sacrificed to an ill-judged economy, and to the vain show of a parade or field-day." When considered in this point of view the encouragement of gymnastic exercises cannot but be deemed a national benefit; and it must be admitted, that those distinguished persons who, by their example and exertions, contribute to render such exercises fashionable and general, are entitled to a high degree of praise. Among these the subject of this article must be placed in the foremost rank.

Robert Barclay Allardice, Esq. of Ury, Kincardineshire, is descended from an ancient and honourable family, which, for several generations, has been distinguished by extraordinary bodily powers. Colonel David Barclay, the first of this family who settled at Ury, served in early life as a volunteer in the Swedish army under the great Gustavus Adolphus, and afterwards took part in the contest which, towards the end of the reign of Charles I, distracted his native country. He was upwards of six feet in height, and so robust, that his sword, which is still preserved, is too heavy to be wielded by "such men as live in these degenerate days." His son and successor was the celebrated *Apologist* for the Quakers, whose tenets the Colonel had embraced towards the conclusion of his life. The grandson of the *Apologist* was known in the county where he resided by the title of the *Strong;* neither was it given to him without reason, if, as we are told, he was seen to throw a horse that had been impounded at Ury over the wall. His successor, who was the father of Captain Barclay, was a noted pedestrian, and frequently walked from his residence to the metropolis. On one occasion he walked from London to Ury, five hundred

and ten miles, in ten successive days; and on another, performed two hundred and ten miles in three days: but it is not true, that he ever walked to London after he was elected a member of parliament, as it has been reported. His ordinary pace was six miles an hour. His height was six feet; he was proportionably athletic, and of the handsomest form. The vigour of his mind was conspicuous throughout a laborious and active life; and his improvements in farming entitle him to the appellation of the father of agriculture in the north of Scotland. Descended from such ancestors, it is no wonder that Captain Barclay's predilection should tend to those exercises in which they so eminently excelled.

He was born at the family mansion of Ury, in August 1779, and at the age of eight years was sent to England for education. After passing four years at Richmond school, and three at Brixton Causeway, he completed his academical studies at Cambridge, and in his eighteenth year succeeded his father in the paternal estate. He early displayed his partiality for the manly sports; for we find him at the age of seventeen engaged in a match to walk six miles within an hour, fair toe and heel, for one hundred guineas, which he accomplished on the Croydon road, in August 1796.

In his next performance, in August 1798, he was equally successful. He matched himself against a Mr. Ferguson, a clerk in the city, well known for his pedestrian feats, to go from Fenchurch-street to the tenth mile-stone beyond Windsor and back, a distance of seventy miles. This he performed in fourteen hours, beating his antagonist by several miles.

In 1801 Captain Barclay appeared conspicuously in the annals of sporting. He made a bet with Mr. Fletcher, of Ballingshoe, that he would walk ninety miles in twenty-one and a half successive hours. The ground chosen for the performance of the match was the road from Brechin to Forfar, in the county of Angus. He accomplished sixty-

seven miles in thirteen hours; but having incautiously drank some brandy, he became sick and unable to proceed: he therefore relinquished the bet, but after resting two hours completely recovered, so that he could easily have finished the remainder of the distance within the time.

Confident, notwithstanding this failure, that he was capable of performing what he had then undertaken, he renewed the match with Mr. Fletcher for five thousand guineas; and whilst in training for the purpose, he made an experimental trial in Lord Fauconberg's park, and went one hundred and ten miles in nineteen hours and twenty-seven minutes. The state of the weather was extremely unfavourable, as it rained all day, and he was up to the ancles in mud: so that, all the circumstances considered, this performance may be deemed the greatest upon record. The ground fixed upon for the decision of this bet was the space of one mile on the high road between York and Hull, about sixteen miles from the former place. Here Captain Barclay started at twelve o'clock at night on the 9th November, and performed his task one hour seven minutes and fifty-six seconds within the specified time. When he had finished he was so strong and hearty, that he felt confident he might have gone twenty or thirty miles farther. Thousands of spectators, on foot and on horseback, attended during the course of his walking; and he was loudly cheered, and carried upon the shoulders of the multitude.

In 1807, his famous match with Abraham Wood, the celebrated Lancashire pedestrian, took place. The parties were to go as great a distance as they could in twenty-four hours, Wood allowing his antagonist twenty miles at starting. The bet of two hundred guineas was decided at Newmarket, on the 19th of October. This match attracted a greater concourse of people than had ever been remembered by the oldest inhabitant; but after going forty miles in six hours, Wood resigned the contest, to the no small surprize of the

amateurs, as it was well known that a few months before he had gone forty miles in five hours. It was afterwards discovered, that liquid laudanum had been administered to Wood by some of his pretended friends, after he had gone twenty-two miles; but it was manifest to all that there was no collusion on the part of Captain Barclay, who had not the slightest suspicion of any thing unfair, and who had gone during the six hours at the regular pace of six miles an hour. Violent disputes took place respecting the payment of the bets on this match, and at length, after much discussion, it was finally settled at Tattersal's, by the opinion of a considerable majority, that they ought not to be paid; though the regular frequenters of Newmarket maintained the contrary.

Captain Barclay gave, in August 1808, a surprizing instance of his strength and perseverance merely for his own amusement. Being at the house of Colonel Murray Farquharson, of Allanmore, in Aberdeenshire, he went out at five in the morning to enjoy the sport of grouse shooting on the mountains, where he travelled at least thirty miles. He returned to the colonel's house by five in the afternoon to dinner, and in the evening set off for Ury, a distance of sixty miles, which he walked in eleven hours, without once stopping to refresh. During the forenoon he attended to his ordinary business at home, and in the afternoon walked sixteen miles, to Laurencekirk, where he danced at a ball during the night, and returned to Ury by seven in the morning. He did not yet retire to bed, but passed the day in partridge-shooting in the fields. He had thus travelled not less than one hundred and thirty miles, supposing him to have gone no more than eight in the course of his day's shooting at home, and also danced at Laurencekirk, without sleeping or having been in bed for two nights and nearly three days.

In October the same year, Captain Barclay made a match with Mr. Wedderburn Webster, a gentleman well known in

the sporting circles, which attracted the notice of the whole kingdom, and has since received the characteristic denomination of *the Barclay match*. He engaged to go on foot one thousand miles in one thousand successive hours, at the rate of a mile in each and every hour for a wager of one thousand guineas, to be performed at Newmarket Heath, and to start on the 1st June, 1809. Not aware of the arduous nature of this undertaking, Captain Barclay, under the idea that it would be easily accomplished, deemed it unnecessary to prepare himself for it by regular training, and only went to Brighton for a short time for the sake of sea-bathing.

On the 30th May he arrived at Newmarket, where lodgings had been provided for him, and the ground on which he was to perform had been marked out. It was on a public road leading from the house of Mr. Buckle, where he lodged, and by no means adapted for the purpose. Finding this situation inconvenient he removed, on the sixteenth day, to fresh lodgings, near the Horse and Jockey, where he continued during the remainder of the time. He also shifted his ground, and walked across the Norwich road up the heath for half a mile out and return.

Captain Barclay started at twelve o'clock in the night, between May 31st and June 1st, and during this memorable match it was his practice to breakfast after returning from his walk at five in the morning. At this meal he ate a roasted fowl, drank a pint of strong ale, and then took two cups of tea with bread and butter. He lunched at twelve; one day on beef-steaks and the next on mutton-chops, of which he ate a considerable quantity. He dined at six, either on roast beef or mutton-chops, with such vegetables as were in season, drinking porter and two or three glasses of wine. At eleven he supped on a cold fowl. The quantity of animal food which he took daily was from five to six pounds. His dress was adapted to the variable state of the

weather. Sometimes he wore a flannel jacket, and at other's a loose dark grey coat, but always used lamb's wool stockings and strong shoes. He walked in a sort of lounging gait, apparently without making any extraordinary effort, scarcely raising his feet more than two or three inches from the ground.

It was not till the morning of the thirteenth day that he began to feel any inconvenience from unremitted exertion and the want of necessary repose. He was then, for the first time, seized with pains in the lower extremities, which continued to increase, though his legs never swelled, as was erroneously reported in the public prints. At length on the twenty-second day the pains became so distressing that he had recourse to medical advice. Dr. Sandiver, who was sent for, recommended the use of the warm bath; but this rendered his feet so tender that he was obliged to abandon it. The Doctor then advised the application of flannel soaked in boiling water, and wrung till nearly dry, as a substitute for the bath. The flannel in this state was applied to the parts affected, and frequently renewed; it caused the pains in the thighs and legs to remove from one part to another, but afforded no permanent relief. A mixture of oil and camphor was also rubbed in after the flannel had been applied. He nevertheless continued to grow worse and worse, so that during the last week he was unable to rise without assistance, and when lifted up could not stand for some time unless supported. One fortunate circumstance, however, was, that to the end his appetite never failed, and to this alone may be ascribed the accomplishment of the task. It was completed on Wednesday the 12th of July, at thirty-seven minutes past three in the afternoon, amidst an unprecedented concourse of spectators. The influx of company had so much increased on the preceding Sunday, that the expediency of roping-in the ground was suggested; but Captain Barclay objected to the measure as indicating too much parade.

Next morning, however, the crowd became so great, and he experienced so much interruption, that he consented to the adoption of this precaution, and the ground was accordingly roped-in. When he had finished the last mile the multitude unanimously saluted him with three cheers. He was immediately put for a few minutes into a hot bath, which had been prepared for the purpose, and when taken out well dried with flannel and put to bed. He slept soundly till twelve o'clock, when he took some water-gruel, and again lay down. He then slept till nine in the morning, when he rose in perfect health and quite relieved from pain. On being weighed he was found to be reduced from thirteen stone four pounds to eleven stone, so that in this performance he lost no less than two stone four pounds.

The difficulty of accomplishing this astonishing match may be conceived, when it is known that the most noted pedestrians by whom it has been undertaken, have uniformly failed in the attempt. Mr. Howe, who started at Cliffe Common, Somersetshire, resigned the task at the end of fifteen days, and thus lost his stake of three hundred guineas, besides injuring his health. Mr. Blackie declined on the twenty-third day, when his legs were swelled to an alarming degree, and his weight was reduced from fourteen stone six pounds to eleven stone. Mr. Martindale persevered for thirty days, and when he gave in on the 27th of May he had lost twenty pounds, and was much injured in his legs and feet.

Not the least remarkable circumstance perhaps attending this extraordinary match was, that in five days Captain Barclay was so completely recovered from the severe fatigue which he had undergone, as to be able to join the expedition to Walcheren, and embark with it at Ramsgate as aid-de-camp to the Marquis of Huntly. In the unwholesome climate of that island he sustained no injury, and returned home in perfect health.

The great muscular power of Captain Barclay has been evinced in his various pedestrian feats, a few of the most remarkable of which have been here recorded: but it remains to be mentioned, that in his arms in particular he possesses uncommon strength, of which he has given some surprising instances.—In April, 1800, while in Suffolk with the 23d regiment, to which he then belonged, although only twenty years of age, he offered a bet of one thousand guineas which was not accepted, that he would lift from the ground the weight of half a ton. He nevertheless tried the experiment, and having obtained a number of weights, which were fastened together by a rope through the rings, he lifted twenty-one half hundred weights. He afterwards, with a straight arm, threw a half hundred weight to the distance of eight yards, and the same weight over his head to the distance of five yards. In the mess-room, Captain Keith, of the same regiment, who weighed eighteen stone, stood upon Captain Barclay's right hand, with which, steadied by his left, he took him up and set him upon the table. He has performed many similar feats, and few men can equal him in those sports which are analagous to the English game of quoits.

Captain Barclay's love of athletic exercises may probably proceed from his robust conformation and great muscular strength, which enable him to accomplish with ease what appears difficult, or even impossible, to a person of ordinary frame. In stature he wants but one inch of six feet, and his usual rate of travelling on foot is six miles an hour. In walking he bends the body forward, so as to throw its weight on the knees. His step is short, and he raises his feet only a few inches from the ground. By this method his pace is quickened, he walks with more ease to himself, and is better able to bear the fatigue of a long journey than by maintaining a perfectly upright posture, which throws too much of the weight of the body on the ancle-joints. He always uses thick-soled shoes and lamb's-wool stockings, which preserve the feet from injury.

As the manly sports have been the amusement of Captain Barclay, so the pursuits of agriculture have been the serious business of his life. He is well acquainted with every thing relative to modern husbandry, and the improvement of his extensive estate has engaged much of his attention. The example of his father, who raised his rental from 300*l.* a year to several thousands, has proved a powerful stimulus to his ardent mind, and by pursuing the plan of his predecessor, Captain Barclay has greatly augmented the value of his property, which is still increasing, and is expected in a few years to produce a yearly income of 10,000*l.* Having brought his estate under such a system of management, as to require but little exertion on his part, he entered into the military service of his country, and obtained a commission in the 23d regiment, with which, in 1805, he accompanied the expedition sent to the Continent under Lord Cathcart, for the protection of Hanover. He was afterwards promoted to a company, but was not again employed on actual service until the unfortunate expedition to Walcheren, as already mentioned. Since that period his military services have been limited to the command of the local militia of his native county, which, principally through his exertions has been brought into a high state of discipline.

Captain Barclay has proved in several matches, that he possesses the quality of speed in an equal degree with strength and perseverance. For an account of these, and of his other pedestrian performances not noticed in this article, such of our readers as are curious on the subject are referred to the work of Mr. Thom, to which we are indebted for the following particulars relative to his amusements when in the country.

A few years since a pack of fox-hounds was established by subscription in Kincardineshire, under the auspices of Captain Barclay. He regularly attended the pack wherever it went, and was scarcely a day absent from the chase. In summer the hounds were kept at Ury, but in the hunting season, they were for weeks stationed at Turriff, in Aberdeenshire, and at

Beauchamp in the county of Angus. During the season 1810-11, he frequently went from Ury to Turriff, a distance of fifty-one miles, where he arrived to breakfast. He attended the pack to cover, often fifteen miles from the kennel, and followed the hounds through all the windings of the chase for twenty or twenty-five miles farther. He returned with the dogs to the kennel, and after taking refreshment proceeded to Ury, where he generally arrived before eleven at night. These long journies he generally performed twice a week, and the distance on the average was from one hundred and thirty to one hundred and fifty miles, which he accomplished in about twenty-one hours. His reluctance to live in a country tavern, and anxiety to attend to his affairs at home, were the motives that induced him to take these laborious rides. A house was afterwards fitted up for his accommodation at Turriff; he then seldom returned home after the chase, but frequently left Ury in the morning of the day on which he hunted. During the winter of 1811, while the pack was stationed at Beauchamp, he always left Ury in the morning, and returned to dinner after hunting. The distance is thirty-three miles, which, when doubled and added to the average distance to the cover, and the length of the chase was about one hundred miles. He commonly left Ury about five in the morning, and returned by five in the afternoon. These journies he performed thrice a week for nine weeks, and considered them only moderate exercise. Although frequently drenched with rain, he seldom shifted his clothes, experiencing no inconvenience from the wetness. To a man thus inured to fatigue and the vicissitudes of the weather, circumstances which would incommode or even injure most people are trivial and insignificant. Heedless of the changes of the weather and of the seasons, Captain Barclay pursues his plans, whether of business or of pleasure, with a perseverance that nothing is capable of shaking.

We shall conclude our account of this celebrated pedestrian with the following Chronological Table of his performances.

YEARS.	WALKING MATCHES.	Miles.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
August 1796	For one hundred guineas, toe and heel, (won) - - - - - - -	6	—	1	—	—
August 1798	With Ferguson, (won) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	70	—	14	—	—
Dec. 1799	From London to Birmingham, by Cambridge - - - - - - -	150	2	—	—	—
Dec. 1799	Same distance, by Oxford - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	150	2	—	—	—
Nov. 1800	From Ury to Ellon, and back to Ury - - - - - - - - -	64	—	12	—	—
1801	With Mr Fletcher, for 1000 guineas, (lost) - - - - - - -	67	—	13	—	—
June 1801	From Ury to Boroughbridge, in Yorkshire - - - - - - - -	300	5	—	—	—
Oct. 1801	Training for Mr. Fletcher's match - - - - - - - - - -	110	—	19	27	—
Nov. 10, 1801	With Mr. Fletcher for 1000 guineas (won) - - - - - - - -	90	—	20	22	—
August 1802	From Ury to Kirkmichael, by Crathynaird - - - - - - - -	180	2	—	—	—
June 1802	From London to Newmarket - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	64	—	10	—	—
March 1805	From Birmingham to Wrexham, by Shrewsbury, (between breakfast and dinner) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	72	—	—	—	—
July 1805	From London to Seaford, Sussex - - - - - . - - - - -	64	—	10	—	—
June 1806	From London to Colchester (to breakfast) - - - - - - - -	51	—	—	—	—
Dec, 1806	From Ury to Crathynaird and back - - - - - - - - - -	100	—	19	—	—

YEARS.	WALKING MATCHES.	Miles.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
May 1807	From Ury to Boat of Forbes and back - - - - - - - - -	78	—	14	—	—
Oct. 12, 1807	At Newmarket, with Abraham Wood for the greatest number of of miles in 24 hours. Wood resigned, when Capt. B. had walked	36	—	6	—	—
August 1808	From Ury to Allanmore, and some other places back to Ury - -	130	—	—	—	—
Dec. 1808	With the Duke of Gordon's runner, from Gordon Castle to Huntly Lodge, beating him five miles - - - - - - - - - (Capt. Barclay went the first nine miles in fifty minutes.)	19	—	2	8	—
June 1, to July 2, 1809	At Newmarket, with Mr. Wedderburn Webster, for 1000 gs. (won)	1000	—	1000 successive		
	RUNNING MATCHES.					
June 1803	With Burke (won) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1½	—	—	—	—
Dec. 1803	At Eastbourne (won) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2	—	—	11	57½
Sept. 18, 1804	———— for 100 guineas with Capt. Marston (won) - -	1	—	—	5	7
Oct. 12, 1804	———— with J. Ireland for 100 guineas (won) - - - -	1	—	—	4	50
Aug. 4, 1806	In Lord's Cricket Ground, Mary-le-bone, with Mr. Goulborne (won) -	¼	—	—	1	12

To this account of the performances of Captain Barclay we shall subjoin some particulars respecting the most remarkable achievements of other celebrated pedestrians.

About the beginning of last century Levi Whitehead of Bramham, in Yorkshire, when in his twenty-second year, ran four miles over Bramham Moor in nineteen minutes, which was at the rate of somewhat more than twelve miles in an hour. He was the swiftest runner of his day, and for several years won the buck's head, given by the Earl of Carlisle, at Castle Howard. He also won the five Queen Anne's guineas, given by William Aislaby, Esq. of Studley; on which occasion he beat ten others, who were selected to run against him. He lived to the age of one hundred, and in his ninety-sixth year frequently walked from Bramham to Tadcaster, at the rate of four miles an hour.

Robert Bartley, of Hutford, in Norfolk, born in 1719, was distinguished in his youth for extraordinary speed; and when an old man frequently walked from Thetford to London, eighty-one miles, in one day, and returned the next. He was well known among the sporting men of Newmarket as a great walker, and died in his 66th year.

In 1774, Reed, a noted pedestrian of Hampshire, ran ten miles within an hour, at the Artillery Ground, London. In 1787 he walked one hundred miles in one day at Gosport; and on the sands of Weymouth, in 1791, he performed fifty miles in little more than nine hours.

Mr. Foster Powell, the most celebrated pedestrian of his time, was born in 1736, at Horsforth near Leeds, Yorkshire. He was bred to the profession of the law, and was clerk to an attorney in New Inn, London. He was a first rate walker either for long or short journeys, and in the former has rarely been equalled. His stature was no more than five feet eight inches; but his legs and thighs were stout and well calculated for performances of this kind. In 1773 he walked from London to York and back in six days for a wager of one hun-

dred guineas. In the same year he beat Andrew Smith, a famous runner, on Barham Downs, in a match of one mile. In 1776 he ran two miles in ten minutes and a half on the Lea Bridge road, losing his match by half a minute. In September, 1787, he walked from the Falstaff Inn, Canterbury to London Bridge and back, a distance of one hundred and nine miles in ten minutes less than twenty-four hours. On the 8th of June, 1788, he set out from Hicks's Hall on a second journey to York and back, which he accomplished in five days, nineteen hours, and fifteen minutes. In July following he walked one hundred miles in twenty-two hours. In 1790 he accepted a bet of twenty guineas to thirteen, that he would walk from London to York, and return in five days eighteen hours, and performed the task in one hour and fifty minutes within the time allowed. On his return he was so fresh that he offered to walk one hundred miles the next day for a considerable wager. In the same year he went from Hyde Park Corner to Windsor and back in seven hours. In July, 1792, he undertook to walk from London to York and back in five days fifteen hours, which he accomplished one hour and twenty-five minutes within the time. In 1792, when in his 57th year, he offered to walk six miles in one hour; to run a mile in five minutes and a half; and to go five hundred miles in seven days, requiring a bet of one hundred guineas on the last undertaking; but as no person appeared to accept his offer, he afterwards declined all pedestrian performances for wagers.

In 1792, Mr. Eustace, then 77 years of age, walked from Liverpool to London, a distance of more than two hundred miles in four days. When eleven years younger, on a journey from Chester to London, he went ninety miles the first day.

In 1806, Mr. Joseph Edge, of Macclesfield, Cheshire, aged 62 years, started from the Angel Inn, Macclesfield, at twelve o'clock on Wednesday night, and arrived at the Swan with Two Necks, Lad Lane, London, at twenty minutes

past one on Saturday morning. This performance is remarkable for the age of the pedestrian, who walked one hundred and seventy-two miles in forty-nine hours and twenty minutes.

In July, 1788, John Batty, 55 years of age, walked seven hundred miles in fourteen days, on Richmond course. This long journey he performed at the following rate:—1st day 59 miles—2d 55¼—3d 52¼—4th 51—5th 51—6th 51—7th 43—8th 42¼—9th 44¼—10th 51—11th 51—12th 54¼—13th 51—14th 36¼; and finished the whole distance five hours within the time allowed.

Thomas Savager, who died in 1809, in his 75th year, though only five feet four inches in stature, and lame from his youth, was a noted pedestrian. In 1789 he undertook to walk four hundred and four miles in six days, on the turnpike road, from Hereford through Leominster to Ludlow, and won his wager five hours within the time allowed. When the superfluous ground over which he walked to his lodgings at Hereford, Ludlow, &c. was added, it was found that he had gone not less than four hundred and twenty-nine miles in five days nineteen hours.

In 1806, Glanville, a native of Shropshire, accomplished a truly extraordinary performance. He walked one hundred and forty-two miles on the Bath road in twenty-nine hours and three quarters. He started from the fourteenth mile-stone to go to the eighty-fifth, and back, at seven in the morning of the 26th of December, and arrived at his journey's end next day, at a quarter before one in the afternoon. He went off at the rate of six miles an hour, and at five minutes past ten reached Twyford, where he took a bason of soup. He refreshed again at Marlborough, and arrived at the eighty-fifth mile-stone at ten minutes past eight in the evening. This part of his journey was performed at the average rate of nearly five miles and a half an hour. He went a few miles on his return, rested on a bed for an hour and a half, and reached Reading at a quarter past six in the morning of

the 27th. He had now twenty-five miles to go in five hours and three quarters, and appeared to be much fatigued. After stopping twenty minutes he renewed his task, and arrived at his journey's end a quarter before one o'clock, winning, with great difficulty, by a quarter of an hour. This performance is the most extraordinary upon record.

Mr. Canning, a gentleman of Hampshire, walked three hundred miles in less than five days. He started at the turnpike road, four miles from Basingstoke, at four in the morning, and went sixty miles in fourteen hours. He finished his task two miles from Yeovil, in Somersetshire, by eleven at night, on the fifth day, apparently so little fatigued, that he might have continued for several days; but in the course of the journey he lost twenty-six pounds in weight.

Mr. Rimmington, a farmer at Holt, near Dorchester, in October, 1811, walked five hundred and sixty miles in seven days, at the rate of eighty miles a day, for a wager of two hundred guineas. He was much emaciated by this extraordinary exertion, and very lame towards the close.

On the 18th of September, 1811, Mr. Mealing, a gentleman of fortune in Somersetshire, for a wager of five hundred guineas, started to go five hundred and forty miles, at the rate of thirty miles a day for eighteen successive days, and to perform the distance in eighteen different counties. He accomplished the undertaking, but was reduced from fourteen stone eight pounds, to twelve stone four pounds.

In March, 1808, Lieutenant Halifax, of the Lancashire militia, walked two miles an hour for one hundred successive hours, near Tiverton, Devonshire. This was an extraordinary performance, as he could not have more than fifty minutes rest at one time during four days and nights. He was much distressed, his legs being swelled, and his whole frame much exhausted. His courage, however, did not fail, and he completed the task amidst the shouts of the multitude whom this uncommon experiment had attracted.

On the 15th April, 1812, Lieut. Groats undertook for a wager of two hundred guineas to go seventy-two miles in twelve hours. He went from Blackfriars' Road to Canterbury, and thence back to Stroud. The first fourteen miles he performed in two hours. When he had gone sixteen miles he was much fatigued; but by the aid of refreshment and rubbing he was enabled to proceed, and accomplished the distance six minutes within the time allowed.

June 12th, 1810, Mr. Yardley accomplished forty-two miles in six hours ten minutes, which was nearly at the rate of seven miles an hour on the average. He went twenty-one miles in three hours, nineteen and a half in the other three hours, and the remaining mile and a half in ten minutes.

On 4th June, 1807, Mr. Stevens undertook to go from the Woolpack at St. Alban's to Finsbury-square, a distance of twenty-one miles in three hours, for a bet of four hundred and fifty guineas. He started at a quarter before two in the morning, and arrived at his journey's end by four. He ran in the first hour seven miles and a half, in the second ten, and in the last quarter three miles and a half.

In April, 1808, Mr. Podgers walked four hundred miles in eight successive days, for a wager of two hundred guineas. He started at Basingstoke, and from Hampshire went into the counties of Wilts, Gloucester, Somerset, Sussex, and Kent, finishing at Maidstone. He walked twelve hours each day, slept eight, and did not appear the least fatigued at any period of the journey.

Mr. Dowler, a publican at Towcester, Northamptonshire, walked five hundred miles in seven successive days for a bet of one hundred guineas. He started on the 3d November, 1808, and finished on the 9th at three in the afternoon.

Captain Howe is one of the most celebrated pedestrians of the present day. He walked three hundred and forty-six miles in six days for a wager of two hundred guineas. He

started at four in the morning of March 8th, 1808, to go from London to Exeter, and accomplished sixty-four miles by nine at night, having stopped at Basingstoke for an hour. The following day he walked seventy miles, and on the third arrived at Exeter to dinner. There he stopped three hours, but returned to Honiton to sleep. On the fourth day he reached within nine miles of Salisbury; and on the fifth night slept at a public house near Basingstoke. He had now forty-nine miles to perform on the sixth day, which he completed by six o'clock in the evening. On the 28th of the same month Captain Howe gained a match of two hundred guineas against Captain Hewetson, having walked eighty miles in less than twenty-four hours. He also beat Mr. Smith in a twenty mile race on the Uxbridge road, about the end of October 1809, performing the distance in two hours twenty minutes, and beating his antagonist by half a mile, though the latter was the favourite before starting.

June 9, 1812, Captain Howe undertook to go sixty miles in twelve hours. He started at four in the morning, went half the distance in twelve minutes less than six hours, continued at the rate of five miles an hour, and finished ten minutes within the time allowed.

Mr. Downes, well known as a first rate pedestrian, in February 1808, walked four hundred miles in ten days for a bet of four hundred guineas. He was greatly fatigued by the exertion, and his weight was reduced more than two stone. He performed thirty-five miles a day for twenty successive days without much difficulty. July 11th, 1809, he walked twenty miles in two hours forty minutes. He matched himself to go thirty miles in three hours and a quarter for a bet of one hundred guineas, but the task proved beyond his power. He was more successful in a match with Captain Aiken, which was decided on the 26th September in the same year at Thorpe in Hampshire. The object was to ascertain which of them could go the greatest distance

in forty-eight hours. They started together at the extremities of a piece of ground of five miles, and met each other. Mr. Downes walked ninety miles the first day, and rested two hours; his antagonist eighty-eight miles, and had only one hour to rest. On the second day Mr. Downes completed seventy-two miles, and had five hours to spare. Captain Aiken had gone but fifty-six in the same time and resigned the match.

Captain Agar may be considered as one of the most celebrated pedestrians of the present day, either for a short or a long distance. On the 13th of June, 1809, he matched himself for one hundred guineas to go five miles in half an hour, and to walk heel and toe the first five minutes, which he performed on the Stains road with considerable ease. On the 7th of April, 1812, he started for a stake of two hundred guineas, to go from his residence at Kensington to Blackwater, in Hampshire, and return, a distance of fifty-nine miles, in eight hours and a half. He arrived at Ashford Common, (seventeen miles) in two hours and ten minutes, and refreshed at Englefield Green, (twenty-one miles,) in five minutes less than three hours. He continued steadily until he completed half the journey in four hours and four minutes. After being well rubbed he resumed his undertaking, and went regularly seven miles an hour, but was much distressed during the last two hours. He completed the distance, however, three minutes within the time, so that the fifty-nine miles were accomplished in eight hours and twenty-seven minutes. For a bet of two hundred guineas Captain Agar matched himself to go three hundred miles in four days. He started from the Edgware road on the 1st of June, 1812, and went ninety miles within the first twenty-four hours; eighty the second day; seventy-two the third, and fifty on the fourth, during which, however, he was much distressed.

Lieutenant Fairman, though his performances are not so remarkable as those of some other pedestrians, who have dis-

tinguished themselves, either by their great strength or uncommon agility, yet deserves notice for undergoing much fatigue without refreshment. His style of walking also is peculiar to himself; for his arms are compressed and pinioned to his sides, and their weight is supported by a loop pendent from each shoulder, in which he places his thumbs.

No sporting event since the wonderful performance of Captain Barclay, at Newmarket, has engrossed so much attention as that commenced on Sundbury common, on Saturday the 22d of May, 1813, at midnight, betwixt William Cross, Captain Barclay's groom, and Edward Rainer, a Kentish butcher, the first pedestrian of the present age, who gave his antagonist one hour in one hundred miles, at starting.

Two marquees for the pedestrians were fixed on each side the road at the starting place, and from the concourse of persons present, and the number of booths and stands, the spot had the appearance of a race-course. The ground over which the pedestrians ran was two miles out and in. The men were in excellent condition after six weeks' training; Cross under the immediate direction of Captain Barclay, upon the system of the latter, and Rainer under the guidance of R. Grinley.

Betting was two to one on Rainer—even betting that the winner did the match in eighteen hours—two to one that it was done by the winner in nineteen hours—and even betting that Cross did it in eighteen hours and a half.

Cross is about forty years of age, and in December, 1808, performed one hundred miles in nineteen hours, seventeen minutes, on the Aberdeen road, near Stonehaven. He stands five feet eight inches, and is well made and active.

Rainer is about twenty-four, the fastest forty miles' runner in England, and had done sixty miles in training, without much fatigue, in very little time.

At twelve o'clock Cross started, and did the first eight miles in one hour, ten minutes and a half. Rainer started at

one, and did the eight miles in one minute under the hour. Cross pursued a steady course, and performed twenty miles in about two hours and fifty-seven minutes, when he halted at his marquee about seven minutes, took some refreshment and proceeded. Rainer did his twenty miles in two hours and a half, and halted for a minute or two, to change his shoes. Both men were fresh, and making more play than was expected. At thirty miles Rainer breakfasted, having previously got within three miles and a half of his adversary. Cross gained some ground at this time by the other's stoppage, and he went on fresh at the rate of seven miles and a half an hour, on the average.

After having done thirty-two miles Rainer ran in evidently weak, and it was soon known after he got into his marquee that he was ill, and this brought betting in favour of Cross, who was well. Rainer remained twenty minutes in his marquee, and was at this time headed more than six miles; but he got fresh again after running four miles.

Cross shewed symptoms of weakness after going forty miles, and in the forty-sixth mile he fell, and was unable to rise; he soon recovered sufficiently to reach his tent.

It was ascertained that the tendons below the calves of the legs had been injured, but after being rubbed, the pedestrian, in the hope of recovering, went four other miles, and he returned to the marquee again, and was afterwards conveyed to a bed at Hampton. This failure is attributed much to over exertion. Captain Barclay accompanied his man on foot the first eight miles, and afterwards the greater part of his journey; and he often reminded him he was over running himself; but his reply was, he was doing within himself.

Rainer, perhaps elated by his adversary's failure, was going on fresh, and offered to do nine miles an hour. His object now was to do the distance in eighteen hours, and from the play he had made he had little more than five miles an hour to accomplish it. He was often distressed, and recovered;

but in going the ninety-first mile in seventeen hours, he fell from exhaustion, and was unable to rise. He was conveyed to Captain Barclay's marquee, where surgical aid was at hand, and from thence to bed also at Hampton.

Captain Barclay gave Rainer the use of his marquee, flannels, and refreshments, after Cross had broken down. The groom did forty miles, taking off stoppages, in five hours and forty minutes. Two umpires were obliged to remain in attendance, to see the finish of the match.

On Sunday, Rainer became fresh, and did the remainder of his ground in a little more than two hours, and won the stake of four hundred guineas. The following is the report of the umpires upon the match:—

"We James Macdonald and James Morris, undersigned, appointed by Captain Barclay and Sir Henry Smith, to act as umpires, between William Cross and Edward Rainer, do certify, that William Cross completed forty-eight miles in seven hours, and then gave up the match; and that Edward Rainer performed ninety miles and a half in seventeen hours seven minutes, and the remaining nine miles and a half in one hour, forty-nine minutes, fifty seconds; being eighteen hours, fifty-six minutes, and fifty seconds, in completing one hundred miles: as witness our hands.

"JAMES MACDONALD.
"JAMES MORRIS."

Rainer returned to London on Monday the 24th of May, and the stake of four hundred guineas was paid by Mr. Jackson. Captain Barclay has pronounced the winner to be the gamest and best runner he ever knew, and made him a present of twenty guineas.

We shall close this article with a chronological list of the most celebrated pedestrian performances recorded during the last and present century.

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1700	Levi Whitehead, on Bramham Moor	4	—	—	—	19	—
1762, May	Mr. Child, miller of Wandsworth, on Wimbledon Common	44	—	—	7	57	—
——, Aug.	John Hague, of Binns, near Marsden	100	—	—	23	15	—
1771,	Chr. Orton, from Middleham to Richmond, Yorkshire	10	—	—	—	57	—
1773,	Foster Powell, from London to York, and back	396	—	6	—	—	—
1774,	Mr. Reed, in the Artillery Ground, London	10	—	—	1	—	—
1776,	Foster Powell, on the Lea Bridge Road	2	—	—	—	10	30
1777, June	Joseph Headley, on Knavesmire, Yorkshire	4	—	—	—	21	—
——, July	———	2	—	—	—	9	45
1781,	Mr. Eustace, aged 66, on a journey from Chester to London	90	—	1	—	—	—
——,	Robert Bartley, from Thetford to London, frequently	81	—	—	24	—	—
1787,	Mr. Reed, at Gosport	100	—	—	24	—	—
——, Sept.	Foster Powell, from Canterbury to London Bridge, and back	109	—	—	23	10	—

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1788, June 8	Foster Powell, from London to York, and back - - -	396	—	5	19	15	—
——, July	———— - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	100	—	—	22	—	—
——, ——	John Batty, aged 55, on Richmond Course - - - - -	700	—	13	19	—	—
1789, 1790,	Thomas Savager, from Hereford through Leominster to Ludlow - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	429	—	5	19	—	—
1790,	Foster Powell, from London to York, and back - - - -	396	—	5	18	—	—
1791,	Mr. Reed, on the sands of Weymouth - - - - - - - -	50	—	—	9	—	—
1792,	Mr. Eustace, aged 77, from Liverpool to London - - -	200	—	4	—	—	—
1793, July 13	John Barrett, on Kersal Moor, near Manchester, for a wager of 20 guineas, against Wilkinson, of Warrington	10	—	—	—	57	—
——, Aug.	John Barrett, on Barham Downs, against Wilson, of Tenterden - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	5	—	—	—	27	9
1795, July 7	Thomas Miller, of Cowfold, Sussex, from Horsham to London - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	36	—	—	5	50	—
1802, April	Abraham Wood, on the York Course, for 100 guineas against John Brown - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4	—	—	—	20	21

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1803,	John Todd. from Hyde Park Corner to the first mile-stone on the Uxbridge Road - - - - - - - - - - - -	1	—	—	—	4	10
1804, July 6	Hon. Edward Harbord and Lord Frederic Bentinck, from the second to the third mile-stone on the Edgware Road, for 100 guineas, won by the former - - - - - - -	1	—	—	—	5	—
——, —— 20	John Bell, Esq. from Brook Green to Hammersmith, for 200 guineas - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	58	—	—	13	—	45
——, Sept. 18	A Butcher of London - - - - - - - - - - - - -	60	—	—	11	15	—
——, Nov. 9	Lieut. Fairman, on the race-course, Ipswich, for 100 guineas - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	60	—	—	13	33	—
1805, June	Mr. Bindall and Lieut. Warren, on the Uxbridge Road, for 50 guineas, won by the former - - - - - - - - - -	7	—	—	—	35	—
——, Aug.	James Farrer, at Knutsford, for 200 guineas - - - - -	4	—	—	—	20	57
——, Oct. 26	Mr. King, optician, for 30 guineas - - - - - - - -	26	—	—	3	43	—
——, Nov.	—— Grinley and —— Curley, the Brighton Shepherd, in Kensington Gardens, won by the former - - - - -	—	100	—	—	—	12½

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1806,	Joseph Edge, of Macclesfield, aged 62, from Macclesfield						
——, June 14	to London - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	172	—	2	1	20	—
	Abraham Wood and Johathan Powlitt, five times round						
——, Aug. 25	Doncaster course, for 400 guineas, won by the former -	9	735	—	—	51	24
	Grinley and Curley, at Hampton Court Green, for 120 gui-						
——, Sept.	neas, won by the former - - - - - - - - - - - -	—	120	—	—	—	12
	Mr. Ensor, clerk of Highgate chapel, for 50 guineas - -	26	—	—	3	43	—
——, October	Abraham Wood, on the Brighton course - - - - - - -	20	—	—	2	5	—
——, ———	———, -	—	440	—	—	—	59
——, Dec. 26	Mr. Glanville, on the Bath Road - - - - - - - - -	142	—	1	5	45	—
1807, April	——— Whitlock, from Shoreditch to Ponder's End and						
	back -	17	—	—	1	50	—
——, ——— 16	Abraham Wood, on Newmarket Heath, for 500 guineas -	40	—	—	4	56	—
——, June 4	Mr. Stevens, from St. Alban's to London, for 450 guineas	21	—	—	2	15	—
——, July 11	Mr. Pearson, from Pimlico to Datchet and back, for 100						
	guineas -	37	—	—	5	27	—

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1807, Aug. 14	—— Wall and Campbell, of Dowton, Wilts, on the Bath Road, near Lyndhurst, won by the former	69	—	—	12	—	—
——, October	—— Curley, on Clapham Common, at four starts	1	—	—	—	4	—
——, Oct. 3	—— Jaques, near Hounslow Heath	50	—	—	8	—	—
——, —— 10	—— Keeley, aged 54, from Shoreditch to Ponder's End and back	17	—	—	1	37	—
1808, ——	—— Spence, a chairman in Paisley, from Glasgow to Edinburgh	42	—	—	7	20	—
——, Jan. 12	Lieutenant Fairman, from Cumberland Gate to Harrow and back	20	—	—	2	56	—
——, February	Andrew Skewball, near Hackney	—	140	—	—	—	12
——, ——	Mr. Downes	400	—	10	—	—	—
——, ——	—— Wallis, of Jermyn Street, at two starts	2	—	—	—	9	—
——, Feb. 17	E. Haslern	1	—	—	—	4	50
——, March	Lieut. Halifax, near Tiverton, Devon	2	—	—	100	successive	
——, Mar. 8-13	Captain Howe, from Londo[illegible] Salisbury, &c.	346	—	5	14	—	—

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1808, March 28	Captain Howe, against Captain Hewetson, for 200 guineas, won by the former	80	—	—	24	—	—
——, April	Mr. Podgers, in Hants, Wilts, Gloucester, Somerset, Sussex, and Kent, for 200 guineas	400	—	8	—	—	—
——, May 5	Captain Thomson, of the 74th regiment, on the Ellon Road, near Aberdeen	21	—	—	2	55	—
——, Sept. 5	Mr. Blewet, from Shoreditch to Theobald's, Herts, and back	24	—	—	2	34	—
——, —— 19	Cooke and Mr. Williams, in Lord's cricket ground, for 50 guineas, won by the former	—	200	—	—	—	20
——, Oct.	Mr. Williams, from Hammersmith	20	—	—	1	53	—
——, Nov. 3-9	Mr. Dowler, publican of Towcester, for 100 guineas	500	—	7	—	—	—
——, Dec. 10	George Frost and Richard Butler, on the Newmarket road, near Bury, won by the former	5	—	—	—	30	—
——, —— 27	Captain Parfet, on the Hampton road, at four starts	4	—	—	—	23	55
1809,	Mr. Canning, from Basingstoke, Hants, to Yeovil, Somerset	300	—	5	—	—	—
——,	—— Hopper, of Canterbury, near that city	63	—	—	11	39	—

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1809,	Hon. Col. Douglas, of the Forfar militia - - - - - -	1	—	—	—	5	—
——,	Francis Martin, of Tewkesbury, for 100 guineas - - -	0½	—	—	—	2	8
——, Mar. 3	Captain Anning, against Forbes of Eaton, near Hampton, won by the former - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1	—	—	—	4	50
——, ——21	Capt. Hewetson, on the Uxbridge Road, for 50 gs. at 2 starts	2	—	—	—	9	57
——, April 17	Mr. Cortey, on the London Road, from Seven Oaks - -	17½	—	—	2	—	—
——, May 2	Captain Dacre against Mr. Dawes, in Bayswater Fields, for 20 guineas, won by the former - - - - - - - - - -	1	—	—	—	4	56
——, ——12	Abraham Wood against Shipley of Nottingham, over Knutsford Heath, for 200 guineas, won by the former - - -	—	440	—	—	—	56
——, June 12	John Jones against William Williams, on the Hereford Road, for 500 guineas, won by the former - - - - - - - -	30	—	—	3	45	—
——, ——13	Captain Agar, on the Staines Road, for 100 guineas - - -	5	—	—	—	30	—
——, ——23	Captain Aiken, on the Uxbridge Road - - - - - - - -	—	100	—	—	—	13
——, ——	——— - - - - - - - - -	—	200	—	—	—	28
——, ——	——— - - - - - - - - -	—	440	—	—	1	18

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1809,	Captain Aiken, on the Twickenham Road - - - - - -	—	440	—	—	1	15
——, July 11	Mr. Downes - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	20	—	—	2	40	—
——, —— 26	Captain Aiken, for 20 guineas - - - - - - - - - -	1	—	—	—	4	58
——, ——	——, with an interval of one minute, again started against Mr. Sullivan, for 20 guineas, and won - - - -	1	—	—	—	5	25
——, Aug.	Captain Walsham, Worcester militia, after walking, rode thirty miles on two curricle horses, in two successive hours, for 120 guineas - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	60	—	—	12	—	—
——, Aug.	Mr. Haselden, of Milton, on the Canterbury Road - - -	10	—	—	—	53	—
——, ——	Mr. O'Callaghan, on the Edgeware Road - - - - - -	10	—	—	—	58	47
——, Sept. 12	Mr. Greig against Matthew Mark, near Maidenhead, for 50 guineas a side, won by the former - - - - - - - - -	20	—	—	2	20	—
——, —— 26	Mr. Downes against Captain Aiken - - - - - - - - -	90	—	—	22	—	—
——, —— 27	——— - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	72	—	—	19	—	—
——, Oct.	Captain Howe against Mr. Smith, on the Uxbridge Road, won by the former - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	20	—	—	2	20	—

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1809, Nov.	Captain Aiken, near Maidenhead, for 100 guineas	4	—	—	—	23	50
1810, Jan. 5	——, against Mr. Athol, won by the former	1	—	—	—	5	12
——, —— 13	William Staniland, from Driffield to Hull and back	54	—	—	7	54	—
——, June 12	Mr. Yardley	42	—	—	6	10	—
——, —— 18	Mr. Bentley, aged 17, from Smithfield to Whetston and back	18	—	—	1	53	—
——, July	Edward Millen	100	—	—	23	25	—
1811,	—— Ricketts, for 5 guineas	17	—	—	1	49	—
——, March 28	—— Clough, on the Bath Road, for 50 guineas	50	—	—	9	—	—
——, April 22	Mr. Shoreham, from Paddington to Nettlebed, Oxfordshire, and back	80	—	—	13	10	—
——, July	Mr. Oliver	100	—	—	23	50	—
——, Sept. 9	Joseph Beal, aged 19, against Isaac Hemsworth, on York race course, won by the former	2	—	—	—	9	48
——, —— 18	Mr. Mealing, to walk in eighteen counties, for 500 guineas	540	—	18	—	—	—
——, Oct. —	Mr. Rimmington, for 200 guineas	569	—	7	—	—	—
——, —— 13	Joseph Beal, against Abraham Wood, won by the former	4	—	—	—	21	18

YEARS.	NAMES, &c.	Miles.	Yards.	Days.	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
1811, Oct. 26	Mr. Harwood, on the Bath Road, for 100 guineas	18	—	—	2	—	—
1812, Feb. 11	Mr. Webber	4	—	—	—	24	—
——, —— 22	James Watson, from Whitechapel to Romford and back, for 10 pounds	23	—	—	2	56	—
——, March 4	Captain Aiken, at Ashford for 100 guineas	1½	—	—	—	8	—
——, April 7	——— Agar, from Kensington to Blackwater, Hants, and back, for 200 guineas	59	—	—	8	27	—
——, —— 14	Mr. Froward, for 20 guineas	30	—	—	3	53	—
——, —— 15	Lieutenant Groats, from Blackfriars Road to Canterbury and back to Stroud, for 200 guineas	72	—	—	11	54	—
——, June 9	Captain Howe, for 200 guineas	60	—	—	11	50	—
——, Sept.	Jonathan Waring, from London to Northampton and back, for 100 guineas	136	—	—	33	57	—
1813, May 22	Edward Rainer against William Cross, Captain Barclay's groom, for 400 guineas, won by the former	90½	—	—	17	7	—

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY

other legs, being three inches in length and remarkably strong. These hinder legs the animal does not employ in walking; they hang down behind the others, not loosely, but on the contrary, in a firm and strong manner. He has two vents which he uses indiscriminately; and crows both loud and well.

At the shop of Cato and Son, Holborn Hill, is now (June 13) to be seen a young duck, stuffed, having four legs placed exactly in the same manner as those of the cock here described.

In the cabinet of Natural Curiosities at Chantilly, in France, formerly the magnificent residence of the Dukes of Bourbon, were preserved the following monstrous productions:—

1. Two calves joined together in the body, with each a separate head and neck, and four legs in the whole. 2. Two calves united only by the pelvis, with only one anus and one tail: the whole supported by six legs, four before and two behind. 3. A lamb with six legs, four of which are behind. 4. The skeleton of a ram with six legs. 5. A hermaphrodite deer. 6. The head of a foal which has only one eye in the middle of the forehead. 7. Some leverets with six and eight legs. 8. A puppy, the lips of which are divided fourfold. 9. Some fœtuses of a hog, which have a kind of a tube upon their forehead one or two inches long; and another, the hinder part of which is double in every thing. 10. Two double human fœtuses joined by the belly, with four arms and three legs. 11. A young chicken with two bodies and one head. 12. A pigeon and a duck, each with two bills. 13. A duck with two heads. 14. A pigeon with four feet. 15. A capon with three feet, the third being fixed to the anus. 16. Two heads of a calf joined together, each of them with two ears: these two heads were both fixed to one neck. In the menagerie at the same place was also to be seen, 17. A cow with five feet; the fifth being connected with the dug. 18. A rabbit without ears. 19. Two cats, each having two

heads. 20. Two leverets well shaped in the body and legs, but connected together by only one head.

Encyclop. Brit. vol. xiv. p. 342.

In the works of Ambrose Parey, an eminent French surgeon of the sixteenth century, translated from the Latin by Thomas Johnston, is a curious chapter on monsters, accompanied with numerous representations of them in wood-cuts. If the reader cannot give implicit credit to all the particulars of this kind related by this author, who was certainly one of the most experienced, enlightened, and ingenious men of his time, they may at least contribute to his amusement.

At Verona, A. D. 1254, a mare foaled a colt with the perfect face of a man, but all the rest of the body like a horse. A little after that the war between the Florentines and Pisans began, by which all Italy was in a combustion.

About the time that Pope Julius II. raised up all Italy and the greatest part of Christendom against Lewis XII. King of France, in the year of our Lord 1512, (in which year, upon Easter Day, near Ravenna, was fought that mortal battle in which the Pope's forces were overthrown,) a monster was born in Ravenna, having a horn upon the crown of his head, two wings instead of arms, and only one leg, most like to those of birds of prey; in the knee thereof an eye. The rest of the body was like a man, and had the distinctive marks of both sexes. The engraving of this extraordinary figure represents it as having the letter Y on the upper part of the breast, and beneath it a cross.

At Quiers, a small village some ten miles from Turin, in Savoy, in the year 1578, upon the 17th day of January, about eight o'clock at night, an honest matron brought forth a child having five horns like to ram's horns, set opposite to one another upon his head: he had also a long piece of flesh, like, in some sort, to a French hood, which women used to wear, hanging down from his forehead, by the nape of his neck, al-

most the length of his back: two other pieces of flesh, like the collar of a shirt, were wrapped about his neck: the fingers ends of both his hands somewhat resembled a hawk's talons, and his knees seemed to be in his hams. The right leg and the right foot were of a very red colour; the rest of the body was of a tawny colour. It is said he gave so terrible a screech, that the midwives and the rest of the women who were present, were so frightened that they left the house and ran away. When the Duke of Savoy heard of this monster, he commanded it should be brought to him, which performed, one would hardly think what various censures the courtiers gave of it.

A. D. 1110, in a certain town of Liege, (as saith Lycosthenes) a sow farrowed a pig with the head, face, hands and feet of a man, but in the rest of the body resembling a swine.

A. D. 1564, at Brussels, in the house of one Joest Dictzpeert, in the street Warmoesbroects, a sow farrowed six pigs, the first whereof was a monster, representing a man in the head, face, fore-feet and shoulders, but in the rest of the body like another pig. But the second day after it was farrowed it was killed by the people, together with the sow, by reason of the monstrousness of the thing.

A. D. 1571, at Antwerp, the wife of one Michael, a printer, dwelling with one John Molline, a graver or carver, at the sign of the Golden Foot in the Camistrate, on St. Thomas's day, brought forth a monster wholly like a dog, but that it had a shorter neck and the head of a bird, but without any feathers on it. This monster was not alive, for that the mother was delivered before her time; but she giving a great screech in the instant of her deliverance, the chimney of the house fell down, yet hurt nobody, not so much as any one of four little children that sat by the fire side.

A. D. 1577, in the town of Blandie, three miles from Melun, there was lambed a lamb having three heads, the

middlemost of which was larger than the rest. When one bleated they all bleated. John Bellanger, the surgeon of Melun, affirmed that he saw this monster, and he got it drawn and sent the figure thereof to me with that human monster that had the head of a frog.

A. D. 1517, in the parish of Kingswood, in the forest of Biera, in the way to Fontainbleau, there was a monster born with the face of a frog, being seen by John Bellanger, surgeon to the King's engineers, before the justices of the town of Harmoy. The father's name was Amadeus Petit, his mother's Magdalena Sarbucata, who, troubled with a fever, by a woman's persuasion, held a quick frog in her hand until it died. Bellanger, a man of an acute wit, thought this was the cause of the monstrous deformity of the child.

Cœlius Rhodiginus saith he saw two monsters in Italy, the one male, the other female, handsomely and neatly made through all their bodies, except their heads, which were double; the male died within a few days after it was born, but the female lived twenty-five years, which is contrary to the common custom of monsters; for they for the most part are very short-lived, because they both live and are born, as it were, against nature's consent; to which may be added, they do not love themselves, by reason they are made a scorn to others, and by that means lead a hated life.

What Lycosthenes telleth of a woman monster is still more remarkable; for, excepting her two heads, she was formed in the rest of her body to an exact perfection: her two heads had the like desire to eat and drink, to sleep, to speak, and to do every thing; she begged from door to door, every one giving her freely. Yet at length she was banished Bavaria, lest that by frequent looking upon her, the imagination of women with child strongly moved, should make the like impression on the infants with which they were pregnant.

In the year 1546, a woman at Paris, in the sixth month of

her account, brought forth a child having two heads, two arms, and four legs. I, dissecting the body of it, found but one heart, by which one may know it was but one infant.

In 1569, a certain woman of Tours was delivered of twins joined together, with one head, and mutually embracing each other. Renatus Ciretus, the famous surgeon of those parts, sent me their skeleton.

Munster writes, that in the village of Bristant, not far from Worms, in the year 1495, he saw two girls perfect and entire in every part of their bodies, but they had their foreheads so joined together that they could not be parted or severed by any art. They lived together ten years: then, the one dying, it was needful to separate the living from the dead; but she did not long outlive her sister, by reason of the malignity of the wound made in parting them asunder.

Cœlius Rhodiginus tells, that in a town of his country, called Sarzans, there was born a monster of unusual bigness; for he had two heads, and all his limbs answerable in greatness and tallness to a child four months old: between his two heads, which were both alike, at the setting on of the shoulder it had a third hand put forth, which did not exceed the ears in length, for it was not all seen. It was born the 5th of the ides of March, 1514.

In the year that Francis I. King of France, entered into a league with the Swiss, there was born a monster in Germany, out of the midst of whose belly there stood a head. It came to man's age, and his lower, and as it were inserted head, was nourished as much as the true and upper head.

In the year 1572, on Easter Monday, at Metz, in Lorraine, at the inn whose sign is the Holy Ghost, a sow pigged a pig, which had eight legs, four ears, and the head of a dog; the hinder part, from the belly downwards, was parted in two as in twins, but the fore parts grew into one: it had two tongues in the mouth, with four teeth in the upper jaw, and as many

in the lower. The shape of this monster was sent me by Borgesius the famous physician of Metz.

In 1562, in the calends of November, at Villa Franca, in Gascony, was born a female child without a head, with ears on his shoulders, whose figure Dr. John Altinus, the physician, gave me, he having received it from Fontanus, the physician of Angolestre, who seriously affirmed he saw it.

So far honest Parey, many of whose accounts seem to be sufficiently well authenticated; and if the reader should be inclined to censure him for admitting others, let it be recollected that more than a century after his time, unoffending old women were burned in this country for witchcraft, and that Sir Thomas Brown, one of the most eminent and learned English physicians of the age, solemnly swore to his belief in the possibility of that crime.

The industrious Wanley has collected particulars of monsters equally marvellous with some of those described by Parey. From his compilation we select the following instances.

The concubine of Pope Nicholas III. was delivered of a monster which resembled a bear. Martin IV. in the first year of his popedom, entertained this lady, and fearing lest she should bring forth other bear whelps, he caused all the bears which were painted or carved in the Pope's palace whilst the family of the Ursini bore sway in Rome, to be blotted out and removed: for this pope was not ignorant how the shapes and pictures, which are conceived in a woman's imagination at the time of her conception, remain imprinted for the most part in the body of that which is conceived.

Camer. Hor. Subcisiv.

Lesina is the biggest isle in all the Adriatic Sea, the governor of which was a Venetian, who inviting me to dine with him, told at his table the story of a marvellous mis-shapen monster born in the island, asking if I would go thither to

see it; proffering me the honor of his company. We went, and the unnatural child being brought to us, I was amazed to behold the deformity of nature; for below the middle part there was but one body, and above the middle there were two living souls, separated from each other, with the several members, their heads being both of one bigness, but different in physiognomy: the belly of the one joined with the posterior part of the other, and their faces looked one way, as if the one had carried the other on his back; and often, in our presence, he that was behind would lay his hands about the neck of the foremost. Their eyes were exceeding big, and their hands greater than an infant's of three times their age: the excrements of both creatures issued forth at one place; and their thighs and legs were of a great growth, not agreeable to their age, which was but thirty-six days. Their feet were proportionably made like to the foot of a camel, round, and cloven in the midst. They received their food with an insatiable desire, and continually mourned with a pitiful noise. When one slept the other waked, which was a strange disagreement in nature. The mother of them bought dearly that birth with the loss of her life; and as I was afterwards informed, these lived but a small time after we had seen them.

Lithgow's Trav.

At Cracow there was born of noble parents a child that was terrible to behold, with flaming and shining eyes: the mouth and nostrils were like to those of an ox: it had long horns, and a back hairy like a dog's: it had the faces of apes in the breast where the teats should stand; it had cat's eyes under the navel, fastened to the hypogastrium, and they looked hideously and frightfully: it had the heads of dogs upon both elbows, and at the whirlbones of each knee, looking forwards: it was splay-footed, and splay-handed: the feet were like those of swans, and it had a tail turned upwards, that was crooked backwards about half an ell long. It lived four hours from the birth, and near its death spake thus:

"Watch, for the Lord your God comes." This was, saith Lycosthenes, A. D. 1543. *Lycosth. de Prodig.*

In the year 1573 there was a monster born at St. Lawrence, in the West Indies, the narration whereof was brought to the Duke of Medina Sidonia, from very faithful hands; that there was a child born there at that time, which, besides the horrible deformity of its mouth, ears, and nose, had two horns on the head like those of a young goat, long hair on the body, a fleshy girdle about his middle, double, whence hung a piece of flesh like a purse, and a bell of flesh in his left hand, like those worn by the Indians when they dance; white boots of flesh on his legs doubled down: in brief, the whole shape was horrid and diabolical, and conceived to proceed from some fright the mother had taken at the antic dances of the Indians, amongst whom the devil himself does not fail to appear sometimes. *Dr. Henry More's Immort. of the Soul.*

At Boston, in New England, Oct. 17, 1637, Mrs. Dyer was delivered of a monster which had no head; the face was on the breast, the ears like an ape's, grew upon the shoulders; the eyes and mouth stood far out; the nose hooking upward; the breast and back full of prickles; the navel and belly where the hips should have been; instead of toes, it had on each foot three claws; upon the back it had two great holes like mouths; above the eyes it had four horns, and was of the female sex. The father and mother were of great families. *Clark's Mir.*

That is strange which is related by Buchanan, of a monstrous birth. "It had," said he, "beneath the navel one body, but above it two distinct ones: when hurt beneath the navel both bodies felt the pain; if above, that body only felt which was hurt. These two would sometimes differ in opinions, and quarrel. The one dying before the other, the survivor pined away by degrees. It lived twenty-eight years;

could speak divers languages, and was by the king's command taught music. *Sandys's Ovid. Metam.*

Anno 1538, there was one born, who grew up to the stature of a man: he was double as to the head and shoulders, in such manner as that one face stood opposite to the other: both were of a likeness, and resembled each other in the beard and eyes; both had the same appetite, and hungered alike: the voice of both was almost the same, and both loved the same woman. *Schenck. Obs. Med.*

I saw, saith Bartholinus, Lazarus Collorædo, the Genoese, first at Copenhagen, after at Basil, when he was twenty-eight years of age, but in both places with amazement. This Lazarus had a little brother growing out at his breast, who was in that posture born with him. If I mistake not, the bone, called xyphoides, in both of them grew together; his left foot alone hung downwards; he had two arms but only three fingers upon each hand: some appearance there was of the secret parts: he moved his hands ears and lips, and had a little beating in the breast. This little brother voids no excrements but by the mouth, nose, and ears, and is nourished by that which the greater takes: he has distinct animal and vital parts from the greater, since he sleeps, sweats, and moves when the other wakes, rests and sweats not. Both received their names at the font; the greater that of Lazarus, and the other that of Johannes Baptista. The natural bowels, as the liver, spleen, &c. are the same in both. Johannes Baptista hath his eyes for the most part shut: his breath small, so that holding a feather at his mouth it scarcely moves, but holding the hand there we find a small and warm breath. His mouth is usually open, and wet with spittle; his head is bigger than that of Lazarus, but deformed; his hair hanging down while his face is in an upright posture. Both have beards; that of Baptista is neglected, but that of Lazarus

very neat. Lazarus is of a just stature, a decent body, courteous deportment, and gallantly attired: he covers the body of his brother with his cloak, nor would you think a monster lay within at your first discourse with him. He seemed always of a constant mind, unless that now and then he was solicitous as to his end, for he feared the death of his brother, presaging that when it came to pass, he should also expire with the stench and putrefaction of his body; and therefore he took greater care of his brother than of himself.

Barth. Hist. Anat.

Parey, whom we have quoted above, says that the man described in the preceding article was to be seen at Paris, in 1530, being then forty years old, "with such admiration to the beholders, that many ran very earnestly to see him."

March 31, 1765. Mary, the wife of Thomas Pointon, a labouring man at Kyre-wood, about half a mile from Tenbury, Worcestershire, was lately delivered of a still-born female infant, which had one head and two faces, viz. four eyes, two noses, two mouths, two tongues, four teeth in the upper jaw of each mouth, and two chins, two back bones, and two breast bones. The ears, arms, and the lower parts were natural. *Ann. Reg.* 1765, p. 77.

At the beginning of July, 1765, a cow belonging to Mr. William Vaughan, butcher, of Bettws Abergelly, in Denbighshire, North Wales, dropped a calf which had two heads, four eyes, four ears, two mouths, two tongues, and two necks; the body and legs as usual. It lived several days seemingly in good health, and was observed at different times to suck with each mouth. A gentleman in the neighbourhood bought the skin to have it stuffed and preserved.

Ann. Reg. 1765, p. 116.

Dr. Eller, of the academy of Berlin, has described a monster remarkable for the extraordinary transposition of the members. It was a fœtus of nine months, twenty-eight inches

long, with an enormous head, and frightful countenance. In the middle of a very large broad forehead it had a reddish eye, without either eye-brows or eye-lids, and sunk deep into a square hole. Immediately below this eye was an excrescence strongly resembling the male organ of generation; and the part covered with hair was below the nape of the neck.

Winslow, in the second part of his Memoirs on Monsters, inserted in the volume published by the Academy of Sciences in 1734, gives the history of two very extraordinary twin monsters, who evinced during their life a great difference in their moral and physical qualities.

Some years since, Mr. (now Sir Everard) Home, presented to Mr. John Hunter, the double skull of a child, born at Calcutta, in May, 1783, of poor parents, and which lived to be nearly two years old. The body of the child was naturally formed; but besides the ordinary head, another of the same size, and almost equally perfect, was attached to its upper part. In this extraneous and preternatural head no pulsation could be felt in the arteries of the temples, but the superficial veins were very evident. One of the eyes had been hurt by the fire upon which the midwife, in her first alarm, threw the child; but the iris was not affected by the approach of any thing to it. The external ears of this head were very imperfect; the tongue adhered to the lower jaw, except for about half an inch at the lip, which was loose; the jaw was capable of motion, but there were no teeth. The child was shewn about the streets of Calcutta for a curiosity, but was rendered unhealthy by confinement, and died at last of a bite from the *cobra de capello*. The body was dug up by the East India Company's agent for salt, at Tumlock, and the skull was deposited in the museum of Mr. Hunter.

On the 14th of May, 1802, Mr. Samuel Collyer, bookbinder, of St. Martin's-le-Grand, caught in his workshop a mouse remarkable for the conformation of the head. The upper part, the base being arched from the middle of the

forehead, was horn and nearly black. The animal had only one eye, and that on the left side of the face; the other side was covered with sound skin, well furnished with hair. The body was in all respects like that of any other mouse. It was easily caught, but received an injury, and died two or three days afterwards, when Mr. Collyer gave it to the proprietor of a small museum of natural curiosities in the City Road.

In February, 1813, a monster of the human species was exhibited for public inspection in Fleet Street. It is described as having the upper and lower extremities double, or in other words, four arms and legs, the fingers and toes of which are perfect and well shaped; a double body joined together by the breast and belly, with one common navel and one head.

The following particulars respecting two human monsters are communicated in the *Carlisle Journal*, (Nov. 19, 1808,) on the most respectable authority.

The first is living near Chirk, in Denbighshire, with its mother, a single woman, who supports herself and it by her labour. The gentleman who described it, says he never saw so wild and wretched a spot as the situation of the poor hut where they reside: the creature is about eighteen, as tall as a human being of that age, but he has very little human in his appearance; he is covered with long hair, and seldom stands upright, but usually grovels upon the ground, where he digs holes with his nails in the floor of the cottage; he is not suffered to be loose, but is fastened to a post; and the part of the hut where he is in, is parted off from the rest by an open wooden railing: he is wild and ferocious to all but his mother. I do not recollect whether he can speak; the woman owns him for her son, but refuses to give any account of his father, alleging that as she does not trouble the parish for his support, no one has a right to question her. A most horrible mystery seems to hang over the whole.

The other creature is a boy of nine years old, son to a farmer, near Market Drayton, in Shropshire; his head and breast are handsome, but he is in every other respect deformed; he has a third leg, which grows under the skin of his right leg, of the same bigness, but not so long, for the foot comes out at the instep. A third arm wraps round the body under the skin, and the hand comes out in the middle of the back: all the trunk is studded with excrescences resembling fingers and thumbs—the child has a most extraordinary appetite, and really consumes as much as two persons, and the voice is singularly deep-toned and loud: his capacity is extremely good, and he goes regularly to school in the village.

The same paper of May 5, 1810, describes a chicken of a very remarkable form, hatched a few days before at Hayberry Mill, parish of Ruthwell, Dumfries. Its head, neck and back, were well formed, and its wings and legs were precisely of the proper form and dimensions; but, instead of a breast nature had substituted another back with other wings, and legs equally perfect of their kind, so that, had it not been for the manner in which the head was placed, it would have appeared a matter of perfect indifference which of the backs had been uppermost, and which set of wings the animal might have used. This curious anomaly did not long survive its exclusion from the shell.

A few weeks ago, in the parish of Kirkconnel, near Sanquhar, there was found in a partridge nest, a young partridge, with two distinct bills, three eyes, one of which was in the centre of the head, four wings, and four legs. The young bird was alive when found, but is since dead. It is now in the possession of Mr. Thomson, surgeon, in Sanquhar, who has preserved it as a curiosity.—*Glasgow Courier, July* 18, 1812.

The Philosophical Transactions contain numerous and in-

teresting particulars of monstrous animal productions, which we shall lay before our readers on a future occasion.

ACCOUNTS OF MERMAIDS, WITH DOCUMENTS TENDING TO PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF THESE EXTRAORDINARY ANIMALS.

THE origin of mermen or mermaids has been differently accounted for by the writers of antiquity; some have been ridiculous enough to affirm that a portion of the disobedient angels were precipitated into the sea, and became mermen; and others, anxious not to be exceeded in improbability, say that fishes, generating in the deluge, and seeing drowned men, became somewhat like them "*from the force of imagination.*" Surely the force of imagination cannot easily go farther than this. Accounts of the appearance of these nondescripts are so various, that we shall content ourselves with enumerating some of the most extraordinary.

Alexander ab Alexandro affirms, that he has known a merman steal a woman; he adds "*causa concubitus.*" Ferdinand Alvares, secretary to the storehouse of the Indians, says, he *saw* a young merman come out of the water, and steal fish left to dry on the shore by the fishermen. Olaus Magnus tells most incredible tales of their actions; but the most authentic accounts of their existence and appearance are the following:—In the year 1187, a merman was fished up on the coast of Suffolk, and kept for six months by the governor; this is related in many of our early English Chronicles, the writers of which add, that it bore so near a conformity with man, that nothing seemed wanting to it besides speech. It took an opportunity of making its escape, and plunging into the sea was never more heard of.

In 1560, near the island of Manar, on the western coast of the island of Ceylon, some fishermen brought up at one draught of the net seven mermen and maids, of which several jesuits (and among the rest, F. Hen. Henriques, and Dimar Bosquer, physician to the viceroy of Goa) were witnesses. The physician who examined them with much care, and made many dissections from them, asserts, that all parts, both internal and external, were found perfectly conformable to those of men.—*See Hist. de la campagnie de Jesus.* Tom. iv. No. 276, where the relations are given at length.

We have another account, well attested, of a merman seen near the Diamond rock on the coast of Martinico; the persons who viewed it gave in a precise description of it before a notary. A creature of the same species was caught in the Baltic in the year 1531, and sent as a present to Sigismond, king of Poland, with whom it lived three days, and was seen by all the court.

But the most authentic and particular relation we meet with is in the History of the Netherlands, and the same occurrence is noticed, with some slight variations in the "*Delices d'Hollande.*" In the year 1430, after a violent tempest, which broke down the dykes in Holland and made way for the sea into the meadows, some milk-women, who were crossing the Mere in a boat, saw a human head above the water, and upon a nearer examination discovered a mermaid embarrassed in the mud. After some resistance on the creature's part they succeeded in securing her, and by gentle usage prevailed on her in a few days to eat and drink milk and bread, and fish. The magistrates of Haarlam, in whose jurisdiction the Mere was, hearing of the circumstance, commanded her to be sent to them; and on her arrival she was put into the town-house, and a woman was assigned to take care of and endeavour to instruct her. In a short time she learned to spin, and would signify by signs that she understood the meaning of the gestures she saw, and the com-

mands she received, but all attempts to make her speak were entirely fruitless. After living among them for sixteen years, during which time thousands of persons saw her, she died, and was permitted to receive the rites of burial in a churchyard. It is related, that she was always desirous of having her lower part in water, in which she was indulged, and that she made two or three attempts to escape to the sea. Her picture was in existence in the year 1706, and hung in the town-house of Haarlam: it represents her with very long black hair, a face perfectly human, as were her breasts and stomach, and the lower extremities resembling a very strong fish-tail. Besides the particulars above related, Parrival affirms that it had even received some notions of a Deity, but this consisted merely in making its reverences to a crucifix which it doubtless executed merely in imitation of its companions.

The following account is taken from the second volume of Dr. Chisholm's Essay on the Malignant Fever in the West Indies: page 192, 2d edition, London, 1801.

In the year 1797, happening to be at Governor Van Battenburg's plantation in Berbice, the conversation turned on a singular animal which had been repeatedly seen in Berbice river, and some smaller rivers, such, particularly, as Mahayeony and Abary, on the same coast. So many circumstances, relative to this animal, were detailed by Mr. Van Battenburgh, as removed much of the disinclination to belief I felt.

This animal is the famous MER-MAID, hitherto considered as a mere creature of the imagination. It is called by the Indians *Mene-mamma*, or mother of the waters. The description of it given by the governor is as follows:

The upper portion resembles the human figure, the head smaller in proportion, sometimes bare, but oftener covered with a copious quantity of *black long hair*. The shoulders are broad, and the breasts large and well formed. The lower

portion resembles the tail portion of a fish, is of immense dimension, the tail forked, and not unlike that of the Dolphin, as it is usually represented. The colour of the skin is either *black* or *tawny*. The animal is held in veneration and dread by the Indians, who imagine that the killing it would be attended with the most calamitous consequences. It is from this circumstance that none of these animals have been shot, and consequently not examined but at a distance. They have been generally observed in a sitting posture in the water, none of the lower extremity being discovered until they are disturbed; when, by plunging, the tail appears and agitates the water to a considerable distance around.

They have been always seen employed in smoothing their hair, or stroking their faces and breasts with their hands, or something resembling hands. In this posture, and thus employed, they have been frequently taken for Indian women bathing.

Mr. Van Battenburgh's account was much corroborated by that of some gentlemen settled in Mahaycony and Abary.

Captain Stedman, in his Narrative of the Expedition against the revolted Negroes of Surinam, from 1772 to 1777 (Vol. II. p. 176), maintains that the animal called a Mermaid is really and truly a viviparous fish, the female of which is furnished with breasts; that the appearance of hair is a deception, proceeding from a fin running down the back, of a curious construction; that the hands are fleshy, fins, &c. But it is to be observed, that he drew his information from "Old Negroes and Indians," whose remarks, we may suppose, were not very accurate, especially as they were, whilst looking at this animal, under the influence of dread.

The reader may compare this with Lord Monboddo's curious relations, and believe as much as he chooses of it; as what I have said comes from very respectable authority, I thought it meriting attention.

The Glasgow Courier of Nov. 28, 1811, contains the following communication relative to this subject:

MR. EDITOR,

If what is contained in the following depositions goes materially to establish what was formerly doubtful, namely, the existence of the fish called the Mermaid, I have no doubt but you will give it room in your paper, at your first convenience, for the gratification of the public. What generally appears above water of the Mermaid has been often described, but, I believe, till now, there never was an opportunity of describing the tail so accurately. Any difference in the colour of the hair and tail, as mentioned by the following witnesses, may be accounted for by the sun shining more or less bright at the time the animal was seen by each of them.

I am, &c.

D. C.

Campbeltown, Nov. 9, 1811.

At Campbeltown, 29th Oct. 1811.

In presence of Duncan Campbell, Esq. Sheriff Substitute of Kintyre, appeared John M'Isaac, son to Lachlan M'Isaac, tenant in Corphine, aged twenty-three years, who, being solemnly sworn and examined, depones, that he resides in the said farm of Corphine, which is situated on the east coast of Kintyre, about four miles south from Campbeltown, that, about three or four o'clock of the afternoon of Sunday the 13th curt. having taken a walk towards the sea side, he came to the edge of a precipice above the shore, from which he saw the appearance of something white upon a black rock at some distance from him. Depones, that, having approached nearer to this rock, he observed this white object moving, which excited his curiosity so much that he resolved to get as near to it as possible unperceived; that, in

order to accomplish this purpose, he crept upon all fours through a field of corn, till he got among the rocks near to the white object above-mentioned, and then from rock to rock until he came within twelve or fifteen paces of the rock on which it lay; that, upon looking at this object with attention, he was impressed with great surprise and astonishment at its uncommon appearance; that it lay flat upon the rock, seemingly upon its belly, with its head towards the sea; that the upper half of it was white, and of the shape of a human body; and the other half, towards the tail, of a brindled or reddish grey colour, apparently covered with scales, but the extremity of the tail itself was of a greenish red shining colour.

Depones, that the head of this animal was covered with long hair; and, as the wind blew off the land, it sometimes raised the hair over this creature's head, and every time the gust of wind would do this the animal would lean towards one side, and, taking up the opposite hand, would stroke the hair backwards, and then leaning upon the other side would adjust the hair on the opposite side of its head in the same manner; that at the same time the animal would put back the hair on both sides of its head in this manner; it would also spread or extend its tail like a fan to a considerable breadth, and while so extended the tail continued in tremulous motion, and when drawn together again it remained motionless, and appeared to the deponent to be about twelve or fourteen inches broad, lying flat upon the rock.

Depones, that the hair, which was long and light brown in the colour, attracted his particular notice; that the animal, upon the whole, was between four and five feet long, as near as he could judge; that it had a head, hair, arms and body, down to the middle, like a human being, only that the arms were short in proportion to the body, which appeared to be about the thickness of that of a young lad, and tapering gradually to the point of the tail; that at the time it was

stroking its head, as above-mentioned, the fingers were kept close together, so that he cannot say whether they were webbed or not; that he continued concealed looking at the animal for near two hours, the part of the rock upon which it lay being dry all that time; that after the sea had so far retired as to leave the rock dry, to the height of five feet above the surface of the water, the animal leaning first upon one hand or arm, and then upon the other, drew its body forward to the edge of the rock, and then tumbled clumsily into the sea; that the deponent immediately got upon his feet from the place of his concealment, and in about a minute thereafter he observed the animal appearing above water very near to the said rock, and then, for the first time, he saw its face, every feature of which he could distinctly mark, and which to him had all the appearance of the face of a human being, with very hollow eyes; and, being particularly interrogated, depones, that the cheeks were of the same colour with the rest of the face; that the neck seemed to be short, and the animal was constantly, with both hands, stroking and washing its breast, which was half immersed in the water, and of which, of course, he had but an imperfect view; that, for this reason, he cannot say whether its bosom was formed like a woman's or not.

Depones, that he saw no other fins or feet upon the said animal but as above described.

Depones, that this animal continued above water, as aforesaid, for a few minutes, and then disappeared, and was seen no more by the deponent; that one of his reasons for lying so long concealed, as above described, was from the expectation that the ebb tide would leave the rock and that part of the shore dry, before the animal would move from it, and that he would then be able to secure it.

Depones, that he has been informed that some boys, in the neighbouring farm of Ballinatunie, saw a creature of the above appearance in the sea, close to the shore, on the after-

noon of the same Sunday. All which he depones to be truth, as he shall answer to God; and depones he cannot write.

DUN. CAMPBELL, Sheriff-Sub.

Campbeltown, 29th Oct. 1811.

We, the Rev. Dr. George Robertson, and Mr. Norman M'Leod, ministers of Campbeltown, and James Maxwell, Esq. chamberlain of Mull, do hereby certify, that we were present when the above-named John M'Isaac delivered his testimony, as before-mentioned; that we know of no reason why his veracity should be called in question; and that, from the manner in which he delivered his evidence, we are satisfied that he was impressed with a perfect belief that the appearance of the animal he has described was such as he has represented it to be.

GEO. ROBERTSON,
NOR. M'LEOD,
JA. MAXWELL, J. P.

At Campbeltown, 2d Nov. 1811.

In presence of Duncan Campbell, Esq. sheriff-substitute of the district of Kintyre, compeared Catherine Loynachan, daughter to Lachlan Loynachan, herd in Ballinatunie, aged eight years and a half, who, being examined and interrogated, declares, that on the afternoon of a Sunday, about three weeks ago, she was herding cattle for her father at the sea-side, on the said farm, and had a brother with her younger than herself; that, as she was turning the cattle towards home, and being at the time very close to the sea-side, she observed some creature sliding upon its belly off one of the rocks very near her into the sea; that she observed this creature had a head, covered with long hair, of a darkish colour, the shoulders and back white, with the rest of the body taper-

ing like a fish, and as she thought of a darkish brown colour; that, after sliding from the rock it disappeared under water, but immediately thereafter it came above water again, about six yards farther out, and turned about with the face of it towards the shore, where the declarant was standing; and having laid one hand, which was like a boy's hand, upon another rock that was near the first rock, it came in nearer to the shore than it was; that at this time the declarant saw the face of it distinctly, which had all the appearance of the face of a child, and as white, and at this time the animal was constantly rubbing or washing its breast with one hand, the fingers being close together.

Declares, that, after this animal continued to look towards the declarant for about half a minute, it swam about and disappeared, but in a very short time thereafter she saw the head and face of this animal appearing above water again, and swimming away south towards the farm of Corphine, but soon after disappeared, and the declarant saw it no more.

Declares, that from the appearance of this animal above water, when swimming south, she thought it was a boy that had fallen out of a vessel passing by, and was swimming in shore for his life, upon which she went home in a hurry and told her mother what she saw at the shore as aforesaid; all which she declares to be truth, and that she cannot write.

DUN. CAMPBELL, Sheriff-Sub.

Compeared Lachlan Loynachan, herd in Ballinatunie, father to the preceding declarant, who, being particularly examined and interrogated, declares, that upon Sunday the 13th day of October last, as he was going from his house before sunset to look after some of the cattle of the farm, the day being stormy, his wife called him back, and informed

him that their daughter Catherine came from the shore, and saying that there was a boy swimming along shore, and desired the declarant to see what it was.

Declares, that he, his wife, and his daughter Catherine, went down to the sea side, where she said the boy was swimming, but no boy or person was to be seen there.

Declares, that his daughter then told him all that she has now declared about the appearance of the boy, and pointed out to him the two rocks where she had seen the person they were in quest of.

Declares, that he is well acquainted with the fishing rock, called the Black Rock of Corphine, and he thinks that the distance betwixt that rock and the two rocks where his said daughter saw the boy or animal before-mentioned, will be about half a mile, or rather better. All which he declares to be truth, and that he cannot write.

DUN. CAMPBELL, Sh. Sub.

A French paper mentions a Triton, or Merman having been seen by five fishermen, in the creek of Melin (Morbihan) on the 31st of July, 1812.—Its shape resembled that of a man. It had arms, and the bust was completely human, but the lower part terminated in a fish's tail. Its head was bald, with the exception of the fore-part, on which was a bunch of black hair, and another bunch was perceptible upon the chin. The seafaring people, who have sent us these particulars, had time to observe the monster at their leisure; it was within half a musket shot of the shore, between two boats, but they were afraid of it, and did not go any nearer.

A still more recent account of the appearance of an animal, supposed to be the mermaid, was given in the Exeter paper in August, 1812, in the subjoined letter:

also appeared covered with short, round, broad feathers, of the colour of the down on the forepart of the body. The whole length of the animal, from the crown of the head to the extremity of the tail, was supposed to be about five feet or five and a half.

In about ten minutes from the time we approached, the animal gave two or three plunges in quick succession, as if it were at play. After this it gave a sudden spring, appearing to *swim* away from us very rapidly, and in a few seconds we lost sight of this wonder-creating animal.

Crowds of boats are this day on the water in hopes of witnessing such a novel sight, and a medical gentleman of Exeter has offered a reward of twenty pounds to whoever may succeed in catching this animal, and will bring it to him for dissection. In consequence of this all the fishermen are very busy in making preparations to endeavour to entangle in their nets this fair nymph of the ocean.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. TOUPIN.

Exmouth, Aug. 13, 1812.

P. S.—It was reported here a few days ago, that a large strange fish had been seen in the neighbourhood of Torbay, and is supposed to have been this animal.

GEORGE VALOBRA,

THE CREEPING PEDESTRIAN.

The annexed portrait exhibits a faithful representation, as well of the person (June 1813), as of the singular habit of one who has been for some years distinguished for the harmless eccentricity of his manners and appearance. His father, a man of very respectable family, is said to have

George Valobra.

don, Pub. as the act directs March 16-1813 by R.S. Kirby 11, London House Yard

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

possessed a large fortune, till, from a motive which deserved a better fate, he lost it by embarking in a business which he did not understand. Some years since, during the excessively high price of bread, he endeavoured to afford some relief to those classes whom this evil chiefly affected by establishing a manufactory of that essential article on a large scale, and selling it at a lower rate. In the prosecution of this well-intended plan, he soon expended his whole fortune, and involved himself in ruin. Amidst all his misfortunes, however, he preserved an unblemished character, and through the interest of his friends procured a situation in the Ordnance Office, which he fills with the greatest credit. He has a son in the army, another in the navy, and a daughter married to a military officer of high rank and professional reputation.

George, the subject of this article, lives with his father, who has lodgings at the east end of Pall Mall. He formerly had a lucrative place in the Tower, but his father's misfortunes preyed to such a degree upon his mind that he was unable to perform the duties of his situation, and became quite deranged. His insanity is of a perfectly harmless nature, and indeed might with greater propriety be termed idiotcy. He spends much time in reading, but in the evening puts on the garb in which he appears in our print, and which consists of an old dirty drab great coat, and strolls for some hours about the streets. His dress and peculiar manner of walking, or rather creeping along, never fail to attract the notice of passengers. He moves at the slowest pace possible, sometimes looking about him, and at other's turning his eyes neither to the right nor to the left. The slow rate at which he thus proceeds affords the lower order of females, by whom our streets are nightly infested, an opportunity of taking great liberties with him. These he never resents; answering merely with yes or no, though occasionally he returns shrewd replies to their remarks. He

goes amongst them by the familiar name of Georgy. He will now and then take up his stick, and walk as well as the ablest man, which proves that his ordinary pace is not the result of physical imbecility, but of some unaccountable caprice. He never speaks, except in the case above-mentioned, even though you speak to him and look him full in the face. This practice of going abroad in the evening he has continued for about two years; but previous to this, for more than a year, he used to go out in the day-time, walking backwards and forwards in the Strand, which is still his favourite promenade, wrapped in a great box-coat, in boots, in a very dirty and tattered condition, and with a coachman's whip in his hand. Though his disordered mind renders him incapable of business, he is nevertheless so much upon his guard, that if any person appears to be watching him, he will not go home, but continue walking about all night rather than betray the place of his abode to the suspicious individual. His father is meanwhile kept in the most anxious suspense, not daring to retire to rest till his son's return, and being obliged to be at his post in the morning he has a very troublesome task on his hands.

The giddy and the unthinking may point the finger of derision at George Valobra; but the feeling mind will the more sincerely deplore his unfortunate situation, as it appears to be the result of a delicacy of sentiment, and a filial affection truly honourable to the heart in which they are cherished.

SINGULAR WILLS.

THE WILL OF MR. WM. JACKETT, LATE OF ISLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, PROVED IN JULY, 1789.

I GIVE and bequeath,
When I am laid underneath,
To my two loving sisters most dear;

place, had taken a dangerous illness, and intreated Bateman, if he wished to see his father alive, to hasten off to Thirsk directly. He laid down his tools, borrowed a small sum of his master to defray the expences of his journey, and set off on the spur of the moment. Judge what must have been his surprise, when, on entering the town, he saw his *dying father* in the streets, crying, "To be sold by auction," &c. "I am glad," said the astonished son to his father, "to see you so much better." "Better," said his father, "nothing has *ailed* me." An explanation then took place, and it appeared that the letter was all a fabrication of this wicked woman. The husband returned to Leeds enraged at the trick that had been put upon him, but quite at a loss to guess the motive. The motive, however, became sufficiently obvious at his return; she had, in his absence, dismantled the house, sold every article of the furniture, and appropriated the money, as she said, and as was probably the fact, to hush up some robbery she had committed.

Some time after this Bateman went to see his friends, and in his absence she sold his clothes, along with many other things that she had stolen from a neighbouring tailor.

In the year 1796, a tremendous fire broke out in a large manufactory in Leeds, and by the falling of one of the walls many unfortunate people lost their lives. This calamity, which harrowed up the feelings of every individual in the town and neighbourhood of common sensibility, Mary Bateman improved to the purposes of her wicked frauds. She went to Miss Maude, a lady known for her charitable and humane disposition, and telling her that the child of a poor woman had fallen a victim amongst the rest, and that she had not linen to lay the child out on, begged she would for pity's sake lend her a pair of sheets: this request was complied with; but the sheets, instead of being applied to such a benevolent purpose, were pledged at a pawnbroker's

HISTORY OF THE LIFE, ATROCIOUS IMPOSITIONS, TRIAL AND EXECUTION OF MARY BATEMAN, THE REPUTED WITCH OF LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE following history of a woman, who perhaps stands unequalled in the annals of British atrocities, naturally gives rise to many serious reflections; but the most important is the caution which it affords against listening to the deceitful suggestions of pretenders in skill in the knowledge of future events, or to a power to alter the dispensations of heaven. Such pretenders, male or female, can be no other than impostors; and those who apply to them for their advice and assistance, or give ear to their artful stories, will reap for their labour disappointment and misery, and perhaps in the end be untimely precipitated out of time into eternity.

It is true, that the time was, when in England, persons were burnt by the hand of the common executioner for witchcraft. An opinion then prevailed, that, by the aid of some supernatural and evil agency, such a crime might be committed. This error has long since been exploded in the minds of well-informed people, but there are those who are so ignorant as to suppose that such creatures as witches still exist. It is, however, to be hoped, that if this narrative should fall into the hands of any who entertain this ridiculous notion, the catalogue of crimes which it exhibits, and the dreadful consequences of those crimes, both to the deceiver and deceived, will correct their dangerous error. God has indeed bestowed human powers upon mankind, and left them to a certain extent to exercise those powers either for the benefit or injury of themselves or their fellow creatures: but *supernatural* powers—those powers to which witches and

fortune-tellers lay claim, must proceed directly from God; and can it be supposed, by any person possessing common sense, that he will bestow such powers, not upon *good* men nor upon *good* women, (for good people never pretend to dive into futurity, or to foretell future events), but upon *bad* men and *bad* women?

Mary Bateman was born at Aisenby, in the parish of Topcliffe, near Thirsk, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, in the year 1768. Her maiden name was Harker, and her parents, small farmers at that place, have always maintained a reputable character.

So early as at five years of age, Mary Bateman began to display a knavish and vicious disposition. At that age she stole a pair of morocco shoes, and secreted them for some months in her father's barn; at length she brought them out and pretended she had found them, but on inquiry proved that this was only one of those fraudulent devices which so strongly marked her future life.

At so early an age she forfeited the confidence of her friends, and her subsequent behaviour was not calculated to regain it. Many were the frauds and falsehoods which she practised in her juvenile years; but we pass them over to hasten to those flagrant acts of fraud, artifice, and cruelty, which, in her more advanced life, have rendered her so notorious.

About the year 1780, she left her father's house, and became a servant in Thirsk. In that town and neighbourhood she lived in various places, and quitted them under very suspicious circumstances. About the year 1787 she left Thirsk for York, and lived near a year in that city as a domestic servant; at length she was detected in some pilfering tricks, and left her place in disgrace, leaving behind her both her clothes and wages. From York she went to Leeds; this was in the year 1788.

During the time she had been in service, she had lived

with a mantua-maker, and being naturally of a very sharp and active disposition, contrived to pick up so much of the art as enabled her to do a little business in that way, mixing with it a certain share of witchcraft, and making up the deficiencies of one concern by the productive properties of the other. She was employed as a mantua-maker, when John Bateman first became acquainted with her: in the year 1792, after a courtship of three weeks, they married, and strikingly verified the adage, that "short acquaintance makes long repentance."

From this period she began to make a figure as a thief, a witch, and a smooth-tongued deceiver. As soon as they were married, not having a house of their own, they went into furnished lodgings, in High-court-lane, Leeds. Not more than two months passed over their heads before Mrs. Bateman broke open the box of a fellow-lodger, and stole from it his watch, some silver spoons, and two guineas. This affair she got over by restoring the stolen property.

That she should rob other people's lodgers cannot be wondered at, when it is known she robbed her own; a young man of the name of Dixon, who lodged with Bateman's when they were housekeepers, had, as he thought, frequently missed small sums of money out of his box; at length two guineas disappeared, and a strict inquiry proved that his hostess was the offender; he threatened, and she protested her innocence, but at length agreed to hush up the disgraceful business by returning him his money.

About a year after their marriage they took a house in Leeds, and furnished it in a tolerable comfortable manner; when one day, soon after post time, she went to the shop where her husband was at work with a letter, apparently overwhelmed with sorrow; this letter purported to be from Thirsk, where her husband's relations lived; and stated, that his father, who was the sexton and town's cryer of that

place, had taken a dangerous illness, and intreated Bateman, if he wished to see his father alive, to hasten off to Thirsk directly. He laid down his tools, borrowed a small sum of his master to defray the expences of his journey, and set off on the spur of the moment. Judge what must have been his surprise, when, on entering the town, he saw his *dying father* in the streets, crying, "To be sold by auction," &c. "I am glad," said the astonished son to his father, "to see you so much better." "Better," said his father, "nothing has *ailed* me." An explanation then took place, and it appeared that the letter was all a fabrication of this wicked woman. The husband returned to Leeds enraged at the trick that had been put upon him, but quite at a loss to guess the motive. The motive, however, became sufficiently obvious at his return; she had, in his absence, dismantled the house, sold every article of the furniture, and appropriated the money, as she said, and as was probably the fact, to hush up some robbery she had committed.

Some time after this Bateman went to see his friends, and in his absence she sold his clothes, along with many other things that she had stolen from a neighbouring tailor.

In the year 1796, a tremendous fire broke out in a large manufactory in Leeds, and by the falling of one of the walls many unfortunate people lost their lives. This calamity, which harrowed up the feelings of every individual in the town and neighbourhood of common sensibility, Mary Bateman improved to the purposes of her wicked frauds. She went to Miss Maude, a lady known for her charitable and humane disposition, and telling her that the child of a poor woman had fallen a victim amongst the rest, and that she had not linen to lay the child out on, begged she would for pity's sake lend her a pair of sheets: this request was complied with; but the sheets, instead of being applied to such a benevolent purpose, were pledged at a pawnbroker's

shop. Three similar instances occurred at the same time, and all the sheets were disposed of in the same way by this abandoned woman. Nor did her frauds from this calamity end here. She went round the town, representing herself as a nurse at the General Infirmary, and collecting all the old linen she could beg to dress the wounds, as she said, of the patients who had been brought into the infirmary, but in reality to dispose of them for her own emolument!

Bateman, disgusted with his wife's vile practices, which were indiscriminately played off upon friend and foe, entered into the supplementary militia, but he took with him his plague, that is, his wife: and here a wide field opened for a woman of her disposition. She practised her old arts, and learnt fresh ones.

When she quitted the army with her husband in the year 1799, on their return to Leeds, they took up their residence in Marsh-lane, near Timble-bridge; Mary then began to practise on a large scale. The two grand qualifications by which she was distinguished in the estimation of love-sick girls and nervous women, were *fortune-telling* and *charms*. In both of these occult sciences she had acquired a perfection of knowledge, and her acts of wickedness were numerous and aggravated. At this time she had not found out the fascinating name of *Miss Blythe*; the lady that then performed the mysterious rites was a *Mrs. Moore*; she herself, as she said, had no skill in casting nativities, or reading the stars, but Mrs. Moore was quite a proficient in that way, and to Mrs. Moore she referred all knotty points. It is hardly necessary to say, that Mrs. Moore, like Miss Blythe, had no existence but in the artful mind and lying mouth of Mrs. Bateman.

The first experiment in witchcraft was made upon a Mrs. Greenwood, whom Mrs. Bateman attempted to persuade that she was in danger, through domestic misfortunes, of committing suicide, and that *her* skill was necessary to prevent so

dire a catastrophe. Next she informed her, that her husband, who was then from home, was taken up for some offence and placed in confinement, and such was the enormity of his crime, and the resentment of his prosecutors, that four men had been set over him to watch him; and if four pieces of gold, four pieces of leather, four pieces of blotting paper, and four brass screws were not produced that night, and placed in her hands to give to Mrs. Moore to "screw down" the guards, her husband would be a dead man before morning. In vain did Mrs. Greenwood plead that she had no pieces of gold; this difficulty Mrs. Bateman proposed to overcome by suggesting to her that she might either borrow or steal them. The latter proposal startled her intended dupe, and fortunately for her she had fortitude enough to emancipate herself from the witch's trammels.

The family of Barzilla Stead, a person who had been unsuccessful in business, next became the objects of her iniquitous exactions. Upon the husband's fears she contrived to work with so much success, by representing the bailiffs to be in continual pursuit of him, that she obliged him to enlist, and to share his bounty with her and her imaginary wise woman. Her next object was to arouse the jealousy of the wife; this she did by assuring her that it was the intention of Barzilla to take with him, when he went to his regiment, a woman out of Vicar-lane, Leeds, who, as she said, was at that time pregnant by him. In order to prevent this calamity it became necessary to *screw down* the rival queen; this was to be effected by the agency of Mrs. Moore, but Mrs. Moore's screws would never drive without money: three half-crowns were to be produced for this purpose, and two pieces of coal; the coals were to be placed at the woman's door in Vicar-lane, they were then to be laid on the fire--the woman was to be thrown into a sound sleep--the fire was to communicate to her clean clothes, which had been washed in contemplation of the intended journey, and the

clothes being consumed, she could not of course elope without them. The morning after this charm had taken effect, Stead left Leeds to join his regiment, and left the woman behind him, who by-the-bye had never any existence but in the mischievous brain of Mary Bateman. She then was left at liberty to play off the whole artillery of her frauds upon the credulous and unsuspecting wife of Stead; to enter into all the expedients she adopted to fleece this poor woman would swell this article to an inconvenient length, we shall only mention that she obliged her to sell or pawn every thing in her house that would raise money, and drove her to such a state of desperation as to lead her victim to attempt the dreadful act of self-murder. While Mary Bateman was practising upon this woman, her dupe was confined in childbirth, and the Leeds Benevolent Society found her in her destitute situation, and determined to apply a guinea to the relief of her wants. This sum was given to her at three payments of seven shillings each, and out of this guinea Mary Bateman had the art and inhumanity to extort eighteen shillings!! persuading the credulous woman that she would "screw down" the Benevolent Society, or as she explained it, make the managers that they *could not* refuse her relief whenever she thought proper to apply to them.

At another time she persuaded Stead's wife that it was the intention of her husband's father to murder her, and that it was in the power of Mrs. Moore alone to prevent the calamity; but even she, witch as she was, could not effect her preservation without the agency of money: for this purpose a guinea and a screw were to be placed in the hands of Mary Bateman, the guinea was raised by pledging some articles of the first necessity in her house—almost all that were left: the charm so far answered that her father-in-law did not murder her, and for the best possible reason, the diabolical design had never entered the head of any person but Mary Bateman herself.

Terror was the great engine by which this woman carried on her frauds, and as the wife of Stead had still a few articles of furniture and clothing, the last sad wreck of their property, she persuaded her if something was not done to prevent it, her daughter, who was then only about eight years of age, would when she attained the age of fourteen become pregnant of an illegitimate child, and that either she would murder herself, or would be murdered by her seducer, to prevent which seventeen shillings was to be placed in Mary Bateman's hands—this money she was to hand over to the invisible Mrs. Moore, who was to reduce the coin to a "silver charm," which charm was to be worn round the girl's arm till the period of danger was past, and which charm, when the bubble burst three months after, was cut from the child's arm, and by a strange transmutation of metal this silver had turned to pewter.

The furniture and clothes were now all gone, and nothing remained but a few tools left by Stead when he went into the army: but even these could not escape the cruel avarice of Mary Bateman, who was never at a loss for expedients to effect her wicked purposes: she persuaded Stead's wife that it was in the power of Mrs. Moore to "screw down" all the officers in her husband's regiment, and so to screw them that they could not avoid giving him his discharge; but then money must be raised, and how; why nothing remained in the house but the tools, they of course must be sent to the pawnbroker's; there they went, and every farthing they fetched was paid to Mary, to get her friend Moore to interpose her *kind* offices for the liberation of the soldier. This charm failed, as the officers were too much for the witch.

In the midst of these scenes of fraud in one party, and weakness in the other, a relation of Stead's came over to Leeds in a state of pregnancy, and forsaken by her lover. This young woman was a fine subject for the artful Mary,

Bateman, who soon learnt her misfortune, and undertook, on condition that a guinea was given to her, for Mrs. Moore to make the lover marry the young woman. The money was paid, but no lover appeared. It was then found out that he was too strong for the first charm, and that more money and more screws would be necessary to screw him down to the altar of hymen. Still he came not; and the girl finding the money she had fast diminishing, procured a service in a respectable family in Leeds, the master of which being a bachelor, Mary soon contrived to persuade the silly girl that she could by her arts oblige him to marry her. Here a difficulty arose—the unborn child was in the way; but Mary, ever ready to undertake any business, however desperate, engaged to remove the impediment, and for that purpose administered certain medicines to the ill-fated young woman; these medicines produced the desired effect, and abortion ensued. The master after all was not to be caught; but the girl's former sweetheart coming over to Leeds, married her, though she was at that time (owing as is supposed to the medicine given to her by Mary Bateman) in a very emaciated state, and in speaking of her connection with this vile woman she used the following remarkable expression:—"Had I never known Mary Bateman, my child would now have been in my arms, and I should have been a healthy woman—but it is in eternity, and I am going after it as fast as time and a ruined constitution can carry me."

A little before this time Stead's wife had opened her eyes through the spirited interposition of a neighbour, to the impositions practised upon her by Mary Bateman, and had got free from the shackles with which she had so long been bound. When it was first suggested that she had been deceived, she thought it impossible—with difficulty the secret was wrung from her, that she had "charms" sewed up in different parts of her clothes. These charms she parted with

as her life's blood, having been so infatuated as to suppose, they could not be taken away without the loss of her life. But when they were removed, and she found she still breathed, and breathed more freely than before, the scales fell from her eyes, and she threatened Mary Bateman, that if she did not give her money to redeem her pledged clothes, furniture, &c. she would have her committed to prison for the fraud. The witch then raised her four guineas, and promised that the whole of her property should be redeemed; but she did not keep her word. It may gratify the curious to know of what materials a charm is made:—It is a long piece of paper tied on a knot, enclosing a small piece of rag, and a piece of gilt leather. Such, at least, were the charms found in the garments of Mrs. Stead.

Blown upon as the credit of Mrs. Bateman's witchcraft then was, she removed from Timble Bridge to Black Dog Yard, at the Bank. While she lived in the above situation one of her hens laid a very *celebrated* egg, remarkable for bearing this inscription, "*Christ is coming*." But as so singular a phenomenon was not likely to obtain all the credit necessary for carrying into effect her fraudulent intentions, unless supported by some kind of proof, she had the cruelty to force up at different times, into the ovary of the poor hen, two other eggs bearing similar inscriptions, and these were of course deposited in the nest; but that it was not *natural* to this hen to lay *marvellous* eggs is very clear, for on being removed out of Mary's possession, she produced eggs of the *common* kind. Persons, however, flocked from all quarters to see the wonderful egg, and they who dared to disbelieve, and to insinuate that some fraud had been practised, stood as good a chance of being mal-treated by a credulous multitude, as he who in Italy should venture to question the reality of the miracles wrought by the thumb of Thomas the Apostle, or he who in Spain should be so fool-hardy, as not to fall down and prostrate himself before the miraculous works of the Lady of the Pillar? Mary's motive for producing those

eggs is not well made out, but it is supposed that she had at that time a notion of imitating a certain other celebrated woman, by taking upon herself the priestly office; and, in order not to set out in the world without stock, she very prudently resolved, that those who came to see the miracle, should pay for the gratification of their curiosity: a penny each was therefore demanded from the inquisitive multitude. And, in justice to Mrs. Bateman, we must say, that we do think this miracle of her's as good in its kind, and proceeding from as *worthy* a motive as any miracle that has been wrought these sixteen hundred years!!

Numerous as have been the unfeeling and unnatural frauds of Mary Bateman, none of them exceeded, in cold-blooded villany, the act which follows:—

A person of the name of Rebecca Fisher, with a family of seven children, was confined in child-bed. On the first day of her confinement Mary went to visit, and condole with her; and as the poor woman's circumstances were too low to hire a nurse, the neighbours performed for her those little domestic offices that people in her situation stand so much in need of. Mary amongst the rest tendered her service, but she determined not to let those services go unrewarded, for she actually stole from this distressed family two of the children's shirts and a loaf of bread!

While Mary Bateman lived at the Bank, she committed another of those atrocious acts that shew her to have been destitute of all the feelings of humanity. A poor man, a neighbour, who earned his living, and supported his family, with the assistance of a horse and cart, sickened and died, leaving a widow and four children, the eldest a boy about fifteen years of age. The widow, who was only the stepmother of these orphan children, was persuaded by Mary Bateman, that the eldest meant to sell all the little property his father had left, and appropriate the money to his own use; to prevent which, she advised the mother to sell the horse,

cart, and furniture, as soon as possible, and to quit Yorkshire; this advice the infatuated woman took, turned every thing into money, and left the children to go to the workhouse. What became of the unnatural mother was never known, except perhaps to her deceiver, for she quitted Leeds, and has never since been heard of.

One day while standing in the shambles, a gentleman, living in Meadow Lane, in Leeds, bought a leg of mutton, and requested that it might be sent home immediately. Mary, ever on the watch for her prey, hastened to the bridge, over which the boy had to pass, and when she saw the boy approach, made towards him in a great hurry, pretended that she was the gentleman's servant, scolded the boy for being so long on the road, and taking the mutton by the shank, gave him a bump on the back, telling him she would carry it home herself. It is almost unnecessary to say, that when the time for preparing dinner came, the joint had not arrived. The master went to his butcher to enquire about this neglect, but he was informed that the meat had been sent an hour ago, and was taken from the boy by a woman, whom he described, and whom the gentleman recollected to have seen at the stall when he was buying the meat, and whose residence he luckily knew to be in the old Assembly-room Yard, in Kirk Gate; he accordingly posted down to her house, and the first object that presented itself was his leg of mutton hung at Bateman's fire. After upbraiding Mary with the theft, she agreed to pay for the mutton, and the matter was compromised.

But all those artifices, frauds, and impositions, however flagrant in themselves, bear little proportion to the larger scale of crimes on which she now advanced. The wicked subject of this narrative contrived to ingratiate herself, as she well knew how, into the good graces of a family of the name of Kitchen, two maiden ladies of the Quaker persuasion, who kept a small linen-draper's shop, near St. Peter's Square, in Leeds. There is every reason to suppose that she had

deluded these unfortunate young women with some idea of her skill in looking into futurity, or at least, that some of her friends, a Mrs. Moore, or a Miss Blythe, perhaps, could read their destiny in the stars! Miserable delusion! How many harmless people have been its sacrifices, is only known to him from whom no secrets are hid. For some time Mary was the confident of the Miss Kitchens. She was frequently at their house; she assisted in their shop; and even to their domestic concerns her interference extended.

In the early part of September, 1803, one of the young women became ill; Mary Bateman procured her medicines, as she said, from a country doctor; these medicines were of powerful efficacy, and in the course of less than one week, Miss Kitchen died. In the mean time, her mother hearing of her dangerous situation, came over from Wakefield, and though in good health when she left home, the mother, as well as the other daughter, took the same illness, and a few days placed them in the chambers of the grave, by the side of their ill-fated relation.

Previous to the death of one of the sisters, a female friend of the family was sent for, and when she arrived, the poor sufferer seemed oppressed with some secret that she wished to communicate, but her strength failing her, she expired, and with her the cruel history of her fate.

Only ten days elapsed from the time this family became sick, to the time of the death of the mother and two sisters. The complaint of which they died was said to be the *cholera morbus;* a complaint, let it be remembered, attended by symptoms resembling those produced by poison. It did not, however, suit the purposes of Mary Bateman to give the disorder so mild a name; she represented it to be the plague, and the whole neighbourhood shunned the place, and would as soon have entered the most infectious wards of a pest-house, as into this dwelling. Mary alone, in the face of all danger, was ready to afford her *friendly* offices; and when

the persons composing this unfortunate family were buried, the door was closed, and a padlock placed upon it.

Some time after the death of these ladies, their creditors looked over their effects, when it was found their house and shop had been plundered of almost every thing they contained; and to add to the embarrassment of their affairs, the shop books were missing; in fact, their property had dwindled down to nothing; so nearly so, at least, that the creditors only divided eight pence in the pound.

Credulity and vice were Mary's best friends. A young man, with whom she was acquainted, had made a young woman a mother without making her a wife; the child, however, was not yet born, and Mary persuaded him that she could, by her "charms," prevent the girl filiating it on him; but two guineas were necessary to make the charm take effect; the two guineas were accordingly paid. The child, notwithstanding, came at the appointed time, and was sworn to the proper father; enraged at being thus duped out of his money, he swore vengeance against his deceiver; and Mary, to appease him, returned the two guineas, which she had not by her, but, as the story goes, she was met by a *man in black* as she was going out of her house, and he gave her the money.

In the year 1807, Bateman's family, who, owing to the villainous conduct of Mary, never remained long in one place, removed into Meadow Lane. While living in this situation a very extraordinary circumstance occurred, and the opinion of the people in the neighbourhood was, that she was in some way privy to that transaction. A man of the name of Joseph Gosling, a cloth-dresser, had been long out of employ; and his family, which consisted of a wife and four children, were reduced to a great extremity of want. One day, the whole family had been out for some time, when one of the children, a boy about seven years of age, returned, and found on the table a small cake; the mother and others of the children soon after returned and partook of this

cake, which they soon discovered had a very keen and pungent taste. This, however, did not prevent them eating several mouthfuls of it. They soon after became sick to such a degree, as to render medical aid necessary. Mr. Atkinson, the surgeon was then sent for, and by administering emetics, saved the lives of the family. On analyzing the cake, it was found to contain a large quantity of arsenic. It is impossible to say why or by whom this poisonous bread was placed in the situation in which the boy found it, and the only reason why it is supposed to have been placed there by Mary Bateman, is, the knowledge that poisonous drugs were much in use by her; that human life was in her estimation of little value, and that the cries or tricks of the children might inconvenience her.

In the month of April, 1807, Judith Cryer, a poor old washerwoman, and a widow, had some uneasiness, by an impropriety in the conduct of her grandson, a boy of about eleven years of age. Winifred Bond, a person who had some dealings with Mary Bateman, either as her dupe or her agent, recommended the old woman to apply to Mary, as a person who could remove the cause of her distress. Judith consented to consult her. Mary soon found out the foible of the poor woman; it was indeed a striking feature in her character to discover the peculiar weakness of her dupes, and by directing the artillery of her frauds to that part, she contrived to effect her vile purposes. An inordinate fear about the future fate of this darling grandson was the spring in Judith's mind, on which the witch found she could play with the most success; she recommended that an application should be made to Miss Blythe, a lady of her acquaintance, who she said lived at Scarborough, but who, in fact, had no more existence than the invisible Mrs. Moore. She then undertook to write to her *dear friend*. In a few days an answer was received from this lady, which shocked Judith beyond description. The letter contained a representation

of a gallows, with its usual appendage, a rope; and stated, that the grandson would be executed before he attained the age of fourteen years, unless the melancholy catastrophe was prevented by the old woman raising four guineas, and applying it as Miss Blythe should direct. To raise such a sum seemed as impossible to poor Judith as to pay the national debt. At length, however, she contrived to scrape it together with the most extreme difficulty. When raised, it was, as Mary pretended, to remain unapplied till she received further instructions from Miss Blythe. The instructions at last arrived, which ordered that three guineas should be put into a leathern bag, and sewed up in Judith's bed, where they were to remain untouched and unlooked at, until the boy had attained the age of fourteen. The former part of these directions were, as far as concerned Judith, faithfully complied with, and Mary, as she thought, deposited the money as directed; but when the witch was apprehended for her depredations on William Perigo, Judith opened her bed, took out the bag and found it empty!—The guineas had disappeared! This was the only witchcraft in the case. To add to the cruel exactions of Mary Bateman, she had obliged poor Judith to wash for her three months to defray the expences of postages, incurred in the sending of letters to, and receiving them from Scarborough—letters that were never sent or received.

In the year 1806, Bateman's family removed to Campfield, in Water Lane, and here Mary met with a new and profitable subject for the exercise of her villainous arts. The wife of James Snowden, a neighbour, had a sort of presentiment that one of her children would be drowned; but whether this notion proceeded from some terrific ideas originating in her own mind, or was suggested to her by Mary Bateman, we are not informed, though, after the skill in that way displayed, in the case of Judith Cryer's grandchild, it is natural to suppose that it arose from Mary's suggestions; whatever

might be the cause of this opinion, Mary Bateman offered her services, or rather the services of Miss Blythe, to prevent the effect, and save the child from a watery grave. Miss Blythe was then represented to be at Thirsk, and a letter was received from her, directing that James Snowden's silver watch should be sewed up in the bed by Mary Bateman. This was accordingly done. Money to the amount of twelve guineas was next required, to prevent the boy being drowned; for this purpose letters were pretended to have been received from Miss Blythe, which directed that this money should also be sewed up in the bed, to be restored to the abused people, as was pretended, when the charm had taken effect. It was, however, found necessary to increase the terrors, and in addition to the death of the son, Miss Blythe suggested, that the daughter would become a prostitute, unless the family left Leeds, and removed to Bowling, near Bradford. The bed, containing the charms, they were allowed to take with them, but it was thought expedient to leave a considerable portion of their property in the house, and leave the key with Bateman.

At length they expressed a wish to be allowed to rip open the bed, and take out the watch and money, but the proper time they were told had not yet arrived; and before the property was taken out, the family of Snowden was to take a *dose*, which was at that time in preparation for them, and was to have been administered about the end of October, 1808. Happily for them this dose was never taken.

At this juncture, so critical to the family in question, Mary Bateman was apprehended for the frauds committed on William Perigo's family, and the wilful murder of Perigo's wife, by administering poison, of which she had died nearly two years before. This event naturally created a good deal of interest. Snowden heard a narrative of the transaction read from a newspaper in a public house at Bradford, and as soon as it was finished he started from his chair and hurried home

with all possible expedition. His first care was to give his wife a hasty and confused notion of the imposition that he supposed had been practised upon them, and next to unrip the folds of the bed; when lo! instead of a watch and money, he found—a piece of coal! He then went over to Leeds, and found his house, which he had left in the care of Mary Bateman, plundered of almost every thing it had contained; and on a search warrant being procured, part of the property was found in Bateman's house.

Another anecdote of Mary's latter dexterity and deception we think worthy of being recorded; the precise time we have not ascertained, but the fact is indisputable.

She took a jaunt to York, and there looked around for some objects of credulity. Well knowing that those who had *faith* enough to give credit to *Joanna Southcott's* fancies, would be the fittest persons on whom to impose her delusive and vile arts, she entered the house of a poor widow woman that resided in an alms-house, and begged to be informed if there were any of *Joanna's* followers in the city; said that she was a stranger, and had come to York to spend a few days, and would be extremely glad to spend some time in their company. The widow replied, that there were several such persons in the city, and that she believed in Joanna herself. Mary expressed high pleasure that her good fortune had directed her to a *believer*. It is here proper to note, that the deep-scheming wretch is believed to have previously attended some of these people's meetings, and there marked out this unfortunate widow for her prey.

Mary then began to intreat that the widow would have the kindness to point out some SEALED friend's house where she might lodge for a few days, and where she might enjoy their precious company. The widow could not recollect any *believer* that was likely to take in a lodger; upon which Mary's countenance became very sad. The kind widow observing

it, added, that though it would be inconvenient for her, yet, as she seemed to be a clean kind of woman, she should have a part of her bed, which produced a flood of thanks from her grateful guest.

Mary, now wishing for an opportunity to reconnoitre the widow's trunks, begged of her to go and buy her a little meat, urging, that she was so unacquainted with the city, that she could not go herself, (not choosing to recollect that she had lived in York for a length of time;) this, however, the widow declined, prudently considering it rather improper to confide so far in a stranger, and procured a girl, who was dispatched to buy the meat. Soon as the mutton was boiled, Mary took care to eat it all herself, but the broth she offered to her hostess; the widow not having been invited to partake of the meat, refused to accept the broth, and Mary urged her to sup it again and again, and lamented much that it should be wasted. However, much against Mary's will, the broth was at length thrown out; and, after Mary had found lodgings in York Castle, the widow strongly suspected it was *Bateman-ized*, and intended for her destruction, for Mary took care not to touch it herself.

After a day or two thus spent in mutual harmony and *edification*, Mary decamped; but how was the widow surprised and vexed to find her coffer emptied of a few guineas, of which her daughter had lately made her a present, and her house stripped of some of her wearing apparel.—But Mary was gone to start fresh game.

Few hearts are so hard as not to feel the impress of tenderness towards a parent, or affection towards a brother. But in the obdurate subject of this history, either those feelings had been obliterated, or had never been brought into existence, as the following incident will shew:—

A brother of Mary Bateman, who had deserted from the navy, came with his wife to live in Leeds, and lodged with Bateman. Mary finding that her lodgers were a restraint

upon her, determined to be quit of them; for this purpose she wrote, or procured a letter to be written to her sister-in-law, stating, that her father was on the point of death, and summoning her to attend to receive his last blessing. The affectionate daughter answered the summons instantly, but when she arrived at Newcastle, where her father lived, she found him in perfect health. In the absence of his wife, Mary contrived to persuade her brother that she was inconstant, and was plunging him in debt, and so far succeeded as to induce him to write to his wife, and tell her she need not return, for he would not receive her. She did, however, return, and convinced him of her innocence; when, on examining their trunks it was discovered, that Mary had, in the wife's absence, stolen their clothes, and disposed of them for what they would raise. This, as might be expected, roused the brother's indignation, but she soon removed him out of the way, for she actually went before the magistrates, and lodged an information against him as a deserter; he was in consequence obliged to quit Leeds, and afterwards entered into the military service. This did not, however, content Mary; she wrote to his mother, and consequently to her own, told her that her brother had been apprehended as a deserter, and that if she could send ten pounds, a substitute was ready to go, and would be accepted in his stead. The ten pounds were sent. Mary pocketed the money, and, unfeeling wretch as she was, laughed at the misery her vile arts had produced.

Providence, in mercy to her dupes, at length thought fit to put a period to her career of villany. She had practised upon the credulity of an unfortunate couple at Bramley, near Leeds, till, having nearly stripped them of all they possessed, she had recourse to poison, to remove her dupes out of the way. The wife died in consequence, and Mary Bateman, after an interval of near two years from that catastrophe, was apprehended and tried for the murder at the York Lent Assizes, March 17, 1809.

The prisoner was indicted for the wilful murder of Rebecca, wife of William Perigo, of Bramley, in May, 1807. The case was stated by Mr. Hardy, Recorder of Leeds, who commenced a most eloquent and forcible speech, with observing, that he had to detail circumstances of as extraordinary folly on the one hand, and of iniquity on the other, as ever came before a court of justice. The event which occasioned this prosecution took place so far back as May, 1807; but he should be able in evidence to show why the charge was not brought forward at a more early period. In the black catalogue of human crimes, none manifested so much depravity as that of poisoning. It was one of those of which the commission was most easy, and the prevention most difficult. When we received injury through the medium of those victuals from whence we sought refreshment, or that medicine to which we looked for relief in sickness, we might be truly said to be every hour in danger; and in the midst of life to be in death. He should proceed to detail the evidence upon which the indictment they had heard read was founded; and unless the prisoner at the bar could rebut it by other evidence, equally unexceptionable, they must convict her. When the deceased and her husband first became acquainted with the prisoner, they lived at Bramley, and she lived at Leeds. They were of that class of people who believed in the existence of wise persons, who can *forsee events* and *perform actions* far beyond the reach of human power. The deceased was poorly, and thought she had an *evil-wish* on her; the exact meaning of which words he could not explain. Her husband, who was very affectionate, had recourse to the prisoner, who was reckoned a *wise woman*, in order to procure her relief. The principal evidence he had to produce was the deceased's husband, whose memory, he understood, was so very retentive, that he could go through a detail of a great variety of circumstances, the occurrences of eighteen months, and relate, with fidelity, even the contents of several letters

which he received on this occasion, and which, for obvious reasons, were ordered to be burnt as soon as read. By these letters he was directed to give up various articles of property, &c. &c. which tended to fix their contents more strongly in his memory. Of the truth of this there could be no doubt. The person who was to work the cure, and of whom the prisoner professed to be only the agent, was stated by her to be a Miss Blythe, of Scarborough; and the first letter he received from her was communicated to him by the prisoner; and he read it at her house, after which it was destroyed. Some of these subsequently received were open, and others not; part of them also had a something of a post-mark on them. This Miss Blythe, the prisoner had confessed, was not in existence; but the letters were written by one Hannah Potts. He cared not by whom they were written; they passed through the prisoner's hands, and it remained for her to show, that at that time she knew nothing of their contents, though she had always talked with Perigo on the matters they treated of, and evidently was acquainted with them.

In the spring of 1806, Sarah Stead, niece of the deceased, went over from Leeds, and finding her aunt very ill, told her she could tell her of a woman who could cure her. On her return to Leeds she accordingly called upon the prisoner, who desired to have a flannel petticoat sent, or any thing the deceased wore next her skin. The husband shortly after took the petticoat to her; and she said she would send it to Scarborough, to Miss Blythe. Soon after a letter came, marked like the Scarborough post-mark, by which the deceased was directed to meet the prisoner at Kirstall Bridge. She went thither; but the prisoner in the mean time came to their house, and told the husband, that having missed his wife by the way, she wished he would go down and meet her. This the unsuspecting husband did. The time of his absence she had undoubtedly employed in taking an inventory of their furniture: for all these articles were demanded one by one,

in the subsequent letters from Scarborough, for the use of Miss Blythe; and such of them as were not likely to be used or destroyed, were found in the prisoner's house at Leeds, when she was taken up on the present charge.

Here Mr. Hardy dwelt at great length on the credibility of the evidence which he meant to bring forward; but owing to the death of the deceased, he said he would be unable to bring any other evidence of the letters, save that of her husband; for every letter or document that could affect her she had taken care to have destroyed as soon as its purpose was answered; and had Providence not interfered in an especial manner, she would never have been suspected of being guilty of the murder.

Mr. Hardy dwelt forcibly on this subject, and particularly remarked on a letter, in which powders were directed to be taken, having come open from the prisoner. That she had directed these letters to be burnt at her own house, was an instance of the deepest subtility; as were also the contents of a letter of the middle of April. If they were taken ill in consequence of eating the powders, she had therein told them they were to be taken ill; if they were brought to the verge of the grave, yet they were not to despond: for though they seemed to be dead, yet they should live. Such assurances were most likely not only to induce them to take the poison, but to abstain from calling in advice. The letter ordered them to begin this course of medicine on the 11th of May. For what purpose was this time appointed? Why, she had promised to bring them home 20*l.* on the 20th of May. The five first powders they took were innocent; evidently for the purpose of inspiring these misguided people with greater confidence; and the poison was then to be taken just four days before the money was to come; but it had never come yet, nor ever would. They were directed not to let the little boy eat of the pudding. Why so, if it was harmless? Perhaps she wished to spare him, because he was

ignorant of her deceits. Another, and a less charitable motive, he feared, however, might be assigned. She might apprehend that if he partook of her fatal bounty, the symptoms might, from his youth and weakness, appear too soon in him, and thus give a premature alarm to her intended victims. They were ordered to keep the doors shut, for fear of an enemy: they had no enemy, however, except herself; but the doors being shut, might have prevented the neighbours from rendering them assistance. They were not to have a doctor, for they were assured they should not die; but were directed, if taken ill, to have recourse to the honey pot saturated with poison.

"Good God!" exclaimed Mr. Hardy, "can any person after this entertain a doubt that the prisoner at the bar wished their destruction? Could any person have laid so diabolical a plan with more art, or a greater possibility of eventual success? To me the circumstances I have adduced, if proved, appear irresistible; and they cannot fail to strike you in the same manner, unless the prisoner can explain or rebut them by satisfactory evidence. In giving your verdict on this occasion, I call on you to do your duty, gentleman, and I call on you to do no more. In cases resting upon circumstantial evidence, doubts there generally are, and doubts there will be; but, if such evidence is to be utterly rejected, you may as well proclaim impunity to the most horrid crimes. If you put doubts against probability, and probability sink the scale, you must dismiss your doubts, and find the prisoner *Guilty*. By the learned judge you will be directed to use your judgments aright upon the evidence as it arises: and may that Almighty Being, who brings all human actions to light, and from whom no secrets are hid, guide you in your arduous duty, and enable you to do justice, both to yourselves and to the prisoner."

Sarah Stead, the first witness examined, lived at Leeds, and was niece to the deceased, who lived at Bramley, three

or four miles from that place. On Whitsunday, 1806, witness went to her house, and in consequence of what passed, called upon the prisoner, whose name she did not then know, at her house in the Black Dog Yard, at the Bank, at Leeds. Witness told her she had been at Bramley, and had found her aunt very low and poorly; and a man of the name of Butterfield had told her that she had had an *evil eye laid on her*. The prisoner said she knew a lady who could cure her, but neither named her, nor the place where she lived. A fortnight after witness went over to Bramley, and told her aunt she knew a woman that could cure her, if she would go over to Leeds. Her uncle came on the Tuesday after, and witness directed him to the prisoner. When the witness first mentioned the deceased's illness, the prisoner said the deceased was to send to the prisoner a flannel petticoat, or any thing she wore next her skin.

William Perigo, husband of the deceased, was about forty-eight years of age, and a cloth manufacturer at Bramley. His wife died on the 24th of May, 1806, (this it appeared should have been 1807.) They had been married twenty years; and there was only a month or two difference in their ages. She had, in general, a very good state of health, and was never confined a week in her life. In the spring of 1806, she complained of a *flackering*, or beating in her side, but went about doing her work as usual, and made no other complaint. In consequence of some conversation he had with the last witness about his wife's illness, he went about the latter end of July, to the Black Dog Yard, at the Bank, in Leeds, to enquire for the prisoner. She was sitting at the door, and on his asking for her by name, desired him to walk in, saying, "I suppose you are Sarah Stead's uncle, and have brought the flannel petticoat;" and he replied "Yes." She said she would send it to Scarborough by that night's post, to a lady named Blythe; and witness was to call on the Tuesday or Wednesday, when there would be a letter to tell

him what was to be done. He did call either on the Tuesday or Wednesday. She had a letter in her hand, which she said was from Miss Blythe, and after reading it to him, burnt it. It stated, that Mary Bateman was to go over to his house on the 4th of August, and bring four guinea notes with her, which were to be put one in every corner of their bed, and they were to give her four other guinea notes in return. The four first notes were to be left in the bed four months; for if touched before by the deceased, it would kill her, and Miss B. would not take her in hand unless this promise was given. Part of this letter the witness himself read, but he could not read it so quick as the prisoner did. It was signed Miss Blythe.

The prisoner said at first that she would meet the deceased at Kirstall Bridge, about half past eleven, but afterwards fixed to meet her there at one o'clock, on the 4th of August, 1806. He, accordingly, when he went home, informed his wife, and she set out at the appointed time: about half or three quarters of an hour after, while she was absent, the prisoner came, and said to him, "I have missed your wife; I have not seen her." He immediately went out to seek for the deceased, leaving the prisoner and her boy, whom she had brought with her, in the house. In about an hour, or an hour and a quarter, he returned with his wife, and found the prisoner in the house, sitting on the bed. The prisoner took out four guinea notes, for which he gave her four in return: she then pulled out four small bags of silk, and sewed the notes she brought in them, and two of these bags were put by the deceased, and two by the witness, at the four corners of the bed. The prisoner then went away, and said he might call when he came to Leeds, as there might be a letter for him. About a week or a fortnight after, he received a letter by the above boy, whom he had heard her call her own twenty times or more. This letter, which he afterwards burnt, was open, came from Scarborough, was signed by Miss Blythe, and said that Mary

Bateman would come to their house again in a few days, and that they must get two pieces of iron made in the shape, and about the size of a horse shoe, to be put behind the door, and to remain there eighteen months. They were to be fixed with three nails each, but not to be nailed with a hammer, but with the back of a pair of pincers, which pincers were to be returned to Scarborough to Miss Blythe. The prisoner did accordingly come a few days after, and said witness must go and get the nails made, for the shoes must be nailed on by three o'clock that afternoon. The nails were not to be made by their own blacksmith, but by one who lived at Stanningley, a few miles off.

Some time after witness received another letter from the prisoner, at her house: it was signed either M. B. or Miss Blythe, but he could not tell how it was directed. This letter, after being read, was burnt. In it he was ordered to buy four pounds of bacon, as fine as he could get. It was for some particular use, which was not mentioned, and the prisoner was to send it to Miss Blythe, at Scarborough. He accordingly bought the bacon, and gave it to the prisoner's boy. This was about September, 1806; and from that time till April, 1807, he generally received a letter every fortnight, sometimes by the post-boy, and sometimes at her house, in which case he paid her postage for double letters. Instead of going into a particular detail of all the several sums of money she had got from him between September, 1806, and April, 1807, he was asked to state the amount of the whole; and he answered, he believed it was about 70*l.* in sums of two, three, and four guineas at a time. She always gave him something sowed up in return, which she told him was two, three, or four guineas, corresponding to the sums he had given her. These they were not to open on any account, but to put them in the bed as soon as he got home. He had also given her a quantity of goods of various kinds: among others, a camp bed, for which he gave 8*l.* This was in con-

sequence of a letter he received from Leeds, appointing him to meet the prisoner at Kirkgate end, who went with him to one Thomas Dobbing, where part of the bed was bought, and the rest of one David Musgrave. After which he took it by her desire to one Sutton's, where her brother's boatman, she said, was to call for it, to take it to Scarborough. In Dobbing's shop, she said it was to go to Scarborough, and Dobbing said it was a singular thing to send a bedstead so far. He also brought her half a dozen of their own china, at the time he came down to buy the bed: and likewise a tea-table, all to go to Scarborough. The value of the goods thus taken to her, in the above-mentioned period, he swore was 15 or 16*l.* at least. In the middle of April, 1807, the witness received a letter from Miss Blythe, by the prisoner's boy; which spoke of an illness they were to take. [This letter was not proved to have been destroyed, and therefore the substance of it could not be received in evidence; but from what we collected from the opening of counsel, it stated, that both Perigo and his wife was to take a very severe illness; but they were told not to despair; for Almighty God had not given them over unto death, and if they attended to her (Miss B.'s) directions they should finally recover. They were to take some powders she had provided for them; and though these might operate so as to make them very ill, they were not to go for a doctor, but have recourse to a pot of honey Mary Bateman was to give him; by means of which they should recover. The powders were given not to Perigo, but to his wife, who took the above letter back to the prisoner's.]

On the 1st. of May, he went down to the prisoner's, and mentioned this letter. He said, it was a queerish thing Miss Blythe could foresee such things as were to happen; meaning that illness they were to take. The prisoner observed, that Miss B. could see if any thing were wrong every day by the planets. She then said, "I suppose you are come for

this honey," and fetched out of the cellar, a brown jar with honey, and put a small paper of white stuff in it. He knew the jar to be their own; and asked her what the white powder was for? She replied, she supposed it was to cure them of that disorder that it would please the Almighty to send upon them at some future time.

On the 5th of May, he received another letter with the Scarborough post-mark on it, addressed to him; but he did not see the prisoner till after the death of his wife. In June last, he was at her house, and complained about these things being not settled, as the eighteen months were gone by. The prisoner said she was sorry she had had any hand in it, as the lady had not come home at the time appointed, being called away by her uncle Wilkinson, to go to Nottingham. Witness said he was grieved they had not had a doctor, but did according to the directions. She said, "You happen did not lick all the honey?" He replied, "No; I doubt we have taken more than done us good." She asked him what he meant; and he said, "I doubt things ar'n't as they should be." The prisoner said, "You make me so unhappy I sha'n't sleep to night; but if you will bring the pot down to me in the morning, I will lick it all out before your face, and satisfy you." Witness, in the latter end of July, was going on horseback by the prisoner's, and she asked him to get off and walk in. She expressed her wonder that he should go to the doctor, contrary to Miss Blythe's directions; for he knew that if they did so they should all die. It had made the prisoner come weeks before her time; and if her husband knew of it, he would have no more concern with her.

After the honey was mixed, he took the pot home, and they put it at the cellar head. Before this, the deceased had brought some powders back with her when she went down to the prisoner's house with the letter, of the middle of April, marked Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. At the time he got the honey pot, the pri-

soner mentioned the powders to him, and wished them to do every thing according to Miss B.'s directions, "otherwise it will kill us all."

The letter of the 5th May, according to the witness, was as follows:

"My dear friends, this is to let you know, that you must make up that pudding which I told you of in the last letter, beginning on the 11th May, and you must put each of these powders in, which I sent from Scarborough to Mary Bateman's at Leeds, and which she gave your wife when she was down, marked for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Mind what I say unto you, and do every thing as I order you, and all will be well; but if you do not it will kill us all. I will come over and send for your wife down to Mary Bateman's, and she will take me by the hand, and say, God bless you that ever I found you out. It pleased God Almighty to send me into the world that I might destroy the works of darkness. I call them works of darkness, because they are dark unto you." The witness read this letter over once or twice, and wrote a few lines out of it, but since burnt that copy. When before the magistrates, he had forgot that he had taken a copy, but remembered the contents.

On the 11th of May the first powder, marked for Monday, was put into the pudding, agreeable to the directions, and the remaining powders every succeeding day: they felt no particular taste, nor any thing but what was right till Saturday. On that morning witness was going to Leeds. Being always to see the powders put into the pudding, the deceased called him down from his work for that purpose. He then set out for Leeds, and on his return from thence, about twenty minutes past twelve, found a mouthful of cake, of which both he and his wife partook, and eat it betwixt them. It tasted very hot and keen. The powder for that day was three or four times the quantity of the preceding

ones, but looked alike. The pudding being enough, witness ate a mouthful of it; and his wife four or five times as much. He would not eat more, because he did not like the taste of it; the deceased also complained, but would eat it. A part that remained she carried into the cellar. As she was returning up, he heard something fall from her mouth, and she immediately said "I am sick!" She was indeed sick as sick. In two minutes, witness himself was struck as sudden as a gun, and could hardly get to the tub before he threw up. They both vomited for twenty-four hours, and never had their clothes off all night. The deceased, when she had thrown up twice, brought the pot of honey out, and took a tea-spoonful; upon which she threw up worse than before. In that night and next day, she took six or seven tea-spoonfuls of the honey, and witness took four. They also drank a quantity of balm tea, &c. and were sick during the night. A violent heat came up from the witness's stomach, his head was giddy, and stanged with pain, and every thing appeared green that he looked upon. The deceased complained of similar symptoms. His mouth grew very sore about Sunday night; and her's was blackish on Sunday, and grew worse and worse, so that she could not open it without putting her hands to it. Her symptoms were daily more aggravated, and on the Sunday after she died. No doctor was called in until that morning, when Mr. Chorley, surgeon and apothecary, of Leeds, was sent for, but she died before he came, so that his visit was countermanded. They did not send for a doctor, in order that every thing might be done agreeable to the directions of the letter. Witness grew rather better on the Friday, but was as weak as ever; and continued so for a very long time after. His wife had been as well for four months before as ever he had known her.

The prisoner had mentioned to the witness an uncle of Miss Blythe's named Wilkinson: and in one of the letters from Miss Blythe, she also mentioned her uncle Wilkinson,

who lived at Whitwell, in Bolland. [This letter was produced in court, and was sealed with two seals; and the witness said, he believed the letters from Miss Blythe were all sealed in that way.] He wished much for these things to be at an end, and that Miss Blythe would come to Leeds; and the prisoner assured him she would soon come, as she had got to her uncle Wilkinson's, at Whitwell, in Bolland. In consequence of a letter he had received, witness had taken a parcel to Mr. Hick's coach-office, at Leeds, directed to Miss Blythe, Centre Hotel, Buxton, and entered it. Four or five days after, in October 1807, witness called at the prisoner's, who said she was very unhappy in her mind, and had not been able to sleep for three or four nights, for an express officer's servant had been there from Buxton, for this parcel for Miss Blythe, which witness should have sent down by the carrier, and she had not received it. The prisoner told him Miss Blythe had taken a house of her cousin Wilkinson, at Wibsey, near Fulneck, about three miles from Bramley.

It was on the 19th of October 1808, that witness opened the bed, and found the small bags that had been put in, all of which he had believed to have contained money or notes. John Rogerson opened some of them, and the witness opened the rest. Those that the prisoner told him contained guineas proved to have nothing in them but a halfpenny, or a piece of lead; those which she said were half guineas turned out to be farthings, and the seven shillings pieces to be only button tops. Those which should have held bank notes, contained nothing but pieces of old newspapers. He cut the seams of the bed quite open, and found all the bags, except the four with guinea notes he and his wife had put in in the prisoner's presence. The prisoner had only been in his house twice, to his knowledge, viz. at the first visit when the bags were put in; and secondly, when she sent him to

Stanningley to get the nails made, with which the horse-shoe was to be nailed on. When he came back he found the prisoner and his wife in the house.

On the day after the bed was searched, the witness met the prisoner; nobody being present but themselves and her little boy. Witness said he had opened the things and found nothing but bits of lead, half-pence, farthings, button tops, and bits of blank paper. The prisoner said he had "opened them too soon;" but he said, he thought "it was too late." "He told her he would bring three or four men down in the morning." She answered, "Don't bring any men down to my house, it will raise such a *hully bulloo!* but fix a time to meet me in the morning, and you shall find me." They accordingly fixed to meet on the Navigation Bank. He informed William Rogerson and Joseph Stockdale, and they agreed to go along on the other side of the bank, and come up to them when they were talking. In the morning they met according to appointment; she sat herself down on the bank-side, but on telling her that he had brought two men with him, and one of them coming up, she began to complain as if sick and poorly, and pretended to be retching. Witness asked her what was the matter; and she said, "That bottle you gave me on Saturday night, for me and my husband, he has drank of it, and I have drank of it, and I think it has poisoned us both." A woman was with her, and she said to the woman, "Did not you see him give me a bottle last night?" The woman made no answer, but walked off. Witness denied that he had ever given her any bottle. The constable soon after came up, and took her into custody. Her house was afterwards searched, and the camp-bed, china, tea-caddy, a piece of cloth, and several other articles, which were among those the witness had given her to send to Miss Blythe, were found. This was the substance of his examination, which lasted nearly five hours and a half.

The prisoner being asked if she had any questions to put to the witness, desired that he might be asked if she ever gave him any powders? He replied that she never did; but that she had mentioned to him of having given them to his wife.

William Wright, who had known the prisoner seventeen years, and had seen her sign two receipts, swore that to the best of his belief, two letters produced in court, were of her hand-writing. The letters were put in and read. They were both directed to William Perigo, Bramley, near Leeds, without signature, or place where written. But purported to be written by Miss Blythe. The first was dated August 12th, and its object appeared to be to let him know she should get to Whitwell, in Bolland, on the following Friday. The other letter was dated August 28th. It was in substance —" My dear friend, I do wish you to make yourself as content as possible. I shall settle all as soon as I come; but I want to settle some things with my uncle Wilkinson; but he is in Ireland. As soon as he comes over, I will come to you. We shall join never to part again, and I shall bring with me one thousand pounds for you. God Almighty bless and comfort you in distress," &c.

Thomas Dobbing proved selling a camp-bed, &c. to Perigo and a woman; and William Hick the booking of a parcel by Perigo, to go to Miss Blythe, Centre Hotel, Buxton, which parcel a woman came twice or thrice to inquire after, but neither of them could swear the prisoner was the woman they had seen.

Winifred Bond had known the prisoner near three years, and was employed to run errands and carry letters for her to different places; all but those she took to Perigo went by post. The prisoner had ordered witness to leave Leeds, and she accordingly went to Howarth, about twenty miles off, and stopped there sixteen weeks, and had since been sixteen

at Leeds. She went because she durst not but do as ordered; not that she was afraid of being beaten by the prisoner, but she said if witness did not do as she was bid something should come upon her, or she should be in danger of her life, or have a deal of money to pay. She had been thrice at Perigo's house with letters, and each time brought something back; first a large tub, next a large bolster case, &c. &c. Should Perigo ask her any questions, she told witness what to say, otherwise she was to say nothing. She went, among other things, for some flour for Miss Blythe; and if Perigo inquired after her, the witness was to say that she was cleaning the rooms at Fulneck, and making the fires against Miss B.'s coming.

Rose Howgate and Mary Perigo corroborated Perigo's evidence, as to his own situation and that of his wife at, and subsequent to, the Saturday when the pudding was eaten; and the symptoms which they manifested.

Joshua Hobson proved that he gave a considerable quantity of dough, from the flour of which the pudding was made, to a chicken, upon which it had no effect whatever.

Sarah Howgate and John Rogerson proved, that having given a piece of the pudding to a cat belonging to a Mr. Musgrave, she ran away apparently very ill, and was found dead soon after. The latter also proved, that eight or nine fowls, having picked among the crumbs left by the cat, several of them were taken ill, and three died.

Joshua Stockdale and William Duffield corroborated Perigo's testimony as to the charge she made against the latter when she was taken, of having given her a bottle the night before, which had made both her and her husband ill, though they were proved to be both in good health. A bottle found upon the prisoner, with Dr. Solomon's name upon it, and the mixture it contained, together with a part of the honey

given to Perigo and his wife, were traced into the hands of Mr. Chorley, the surgeon and apothecary.

Thomas Gristy, a boy about eleven years of age, swore to having gone about two years ago with the prisoner's boy to the shop of William Clough, a surgeon, in Leeds, to ask for some drug, the name of which was written on a piece of paper; but that Mr. Clough said he would not let them have any, as it was poison. They went to the prisoner's, and her son told her Mr. Clough would not let her have any. She asked why? and her son said he did not know what it was for.

Mr. Clough recollected two boys coming to his shop about the time specified, and one of them producing a paper with arsenic upon it, of which they wanted four pennyworth, for the purpose of killing bugs. He refused to let them have it, but could not swear to the boys. In answer to a question by the court, he said that arsenic was used by many people to kill bugs.

Thomas Chorley had practised in Leeds as a surgeon nearly seventeen years. On the 25th May, 1807, William Perigo came to witness's on horseback, apparently very weak and infirm, so that he could scarcely walk. He gave the same account of the symptoms he laboured under, as he had done that day. Witness, after hearing the history of his complaint, and the symptoms, told him, that he could account for it in no other way than from poison in the pudding, which he said was the only thing he had eaten; and thought it must have been some metallic poison. The witness then proceeded to state the experiments he had made upon the remainder of the honey found at Perigo's, and the contents of the bottle found in the prisoner's pocket when she was taken up. The result of these experiments was, that the former contained a considerable quantity of corrosive sublimate; and that the latter was composed of a spirit like rum, and a

mixture of oatmeal and arsenic. He had heard the evidence of those who had witnessed the illness and death of the deceased, and believed that the symptoms were such as would be produced in a person who had taken corrosive sublimate.

John Lawson, physician to the York County Hospital, had heard the evidence of the witnesses, and was clearly of opinion that the symptoms manifested by Rebecca Perigo, were those produced by corrosive sublimate, and that her death was occasioned by poison; if the quantity she had taken had not been so great, she might have lived as her husband did.

Jonas Lucas, surgeon, coincided in sentiment with Dr. Lawson and Mr. Chorley, as to the cause of the deceased's death.

The prisoner's examination was then put in and read. It was taken before the Mayor of Leeds, on the 16th January last. In it she stated, that all the letters that had been sent to Perigo, except the last five or six, were written by one Hannah Potts. She denied having received several of the articles which he had stated her to have obtained from him; alleged she had paid him for others, and that she had not received so much money from him as he had given account of. Perigo, she said, the night before she was taken up, had given her a bottle out of his pocket. Her husband had not taken any of this bottle, but she did, and was very ill with it, and picked up. She denied that she had ever sent the boy for poison.

The prisoner being asked if she had any thing to say in her own defence, said she was innocent; but had no witnesses to call to contradict any of the evidence.

The learned Judge proceeded to charge the Jury. The indictment, he observed, contained two counts; the first

charged the prisoner with administering poison to the deceased, the second with enticing her to take it. The latter applied more particularly to the evidence; yet if the poison was sent, or given by the prisoner to the deceased wilfully or maliciously, or even if it had only been laid in some place where the deceased was likely to find and take it, the prisoner would be equally guilty of the administering, as if she had herself actually administered it. He then proceeded to recapitulate the evidence at great length. It was hardly to be supposed, he observed, had not the fact been so strongly established, that a man could have been found in this enlightened age and country, so stupid as to have suffered himself to have been imposed upon in so singular and shameful a manner for eighteen months, as the man who was the principal witness against the prisoner at the bar. On remarking upon Perigo's evidence, he said, that it surprised him, and he doubted not but the Jury had felt the same surprise, that the witness could have repeated, with such apparent correctness, the contents of a letter received some years ago; but he had taken a copy of the more striking passages, by repeating which they might have been impressed upon his memory. One circumstance was unaccounted for, namely, in what manner the four bags with the guinea notes of the prisoner had been got out of the bed. The only object, however, for the consideration of the Jury, was, whether the prisoner was the person who gave the powders, which were clearly proved to have been the cause of the deceased's illness; and the honey, which contributed to increase it? They were not to determine upon the frauds proved against her, however criminal; these were here only brought forward as furnishing the motives by which the prisoner was actuated. By the deaths of this man and his wife she might hope to escape that punishment, which, as the hour of detection was drawing near, must otherwise have fallen on her. After dwelling at

great length upon the evidence, and particularly that of Perigo, which, he observed, was certainly not shaken by any other, he left the whole with the Jury for their determination.

After consulting a short time, the Jury returned a verdict of *Guilty*.

The Judge immediately proceeded to pass sentence upon the prisoner, whom he addressed nearly as follows:—

"Mary Bateman, you have been charged with the commission of a crime of the most atrocious nature: your case has been examined with the greatest caution by a Jury, who after a long and patient investigation, have pronounced you guilty; and it only remains for me to pass the sentence of the law upon you. In the situation in which you stand, if you are not utterly devoid of sensibility, you must have suffered greatly from the evidence of your crimes which has been brought under review. It is far from my wish to aggravate those feelings more than is indispensably necessary. After the testimony which has been produced there can be no doubt of the extent of your guilt. You began with carrying into execution a deep-laid and complicated system of fraud. You got hold of a good subject for your nefarious purpose. You found him encompassed with your toils. You got possession of the greatest part of his property; and the time was fast approaching when, to all appearance, you must be brought to an account. Under those circumstances, you added to the list of your offences the crime of an attempt against the life not only of this man, but of his wife; and for this purpose you procured instruments the most detestable and injurious; because, as has been well observed, they are of a description against which no human caution can guard. The necessary food of these infatuated creatures was to become the medium of your vengeance upon them; and your malice in part succeeded. You stand

here, a striking instance, that the judgments of that Almighty Power, who executeth judgment in righteousness, though long deferred will assuredly overtake the guilty.

"You have continued to practise your wicked machinations against that man down to a late period; and when he became clamorous for restitution, you appear to have provided that bottle found upon you and produced in court, in order to administer the fatal dose it contained, had you met him alone; for to no other purpose can I account for your having it in your pocket. Though you felt no mercy for those misguided persons, but wished to send them to their graves without preparation, yet your country is far more merciful to you. You will be provided with those means of repentance which may even yet avail you. Its laws allow you the assistance of pious and devout men, to provide for your spiritual wants.

"No hopes of mercy remain for you here; and I earnestly exhort you to use the little time you have to live in preparing for another world. I have only now to pass sentence upon you—that you be carried back to the place from whence you came; and that you be taken from thence, on Monday next, to the place of execution, to be there hanged by the neck until you are dead; and that your body be given to the surgeons for dissection; and the Lord have mercy on your soul!"

The prisoner, on being asked if she had any thing to say why the sentence passed on her should not be executed, pleaded that she was twenty-three weeks gone with child. A jury of matrons was immediately impannelled, who returned a verdict of "*not quick.*"

The trial lasted nearly twelve hours. The court was more crowded than ever known.

This devoted and profligate creature, was a follower of the principles of Joanna Southcott; only improving decep-

tion into robbery, barbarity, and murder! She affected the visions, the trances, the second-sight of that wretched sect, large bodies of whom from Leeds attended the execution; the more simple part of whom really imagined that some miracle would be worked in her favour, and that she would fly off the scaffold in a cloud, or on a broom, and be saved by the interposition of Heaven! Jack Ketch, however, was of a different opinion, and his opinion prevailed; his tether was too tightly tied against any attempts of her supposed assisting angels.

Notwithstanding all the prayers and exhortations of the clergyman, she obstinately persisted in denying that she had poisoned the woman for whom she suffered, and died extremely hardened and unrepenting; thus quitting, after foul and deliberate murder, the last brink of time, with an obdurate lie hanging on her quivering and distorted lips!

March 20th, at eleven o'clock, she was brought on the scaffold, with Brown, a soldier of the York Rangers, likewise sentenced to die for murder; and the culprits, after praying a short time with the ordinary, were conducted under the drop, to which they came very readily, and were launched by the instantaneous falling of it, into that state where repentance comes too late.

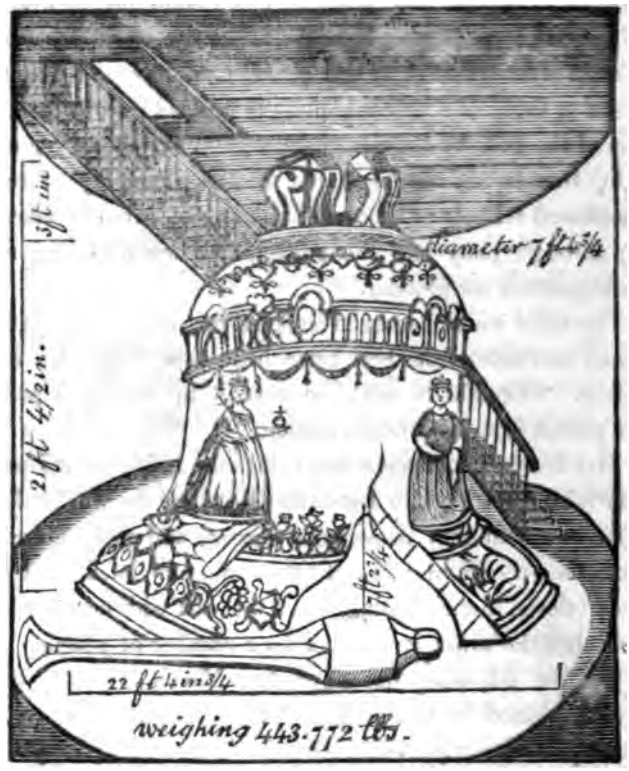
It is a curious matter to state, that so ingrained and assimilated to her disposition had became Mary Bateman's propensity to plunder and witchcraft, that from the poor woman who had attended on herself and child in the prison, she contrived to steal a guinea, by telling the woman's fortune and making the stars favourable to her in a sweetheart. She carried on this religious mummery to the last, and the gallows only stopped her taste and her insight into futurity. When it is considered that this wretch by the same means and by a complete knowledge of poisons, had before destroyed the lives of two innocent women, whom she robbed

of every thing they had, and that had Perigo died as well as his wife, this would have been the fourth life sacrificed to her infernal arts; we trust it will prove a salutary and dreadful lesson to those who are attempting to mislead the understandings of the poor by these fanatical flights; by visions, second-sight, trances and sealings, and all the mummery of such abandoned schools as those of Joanna, &c. who are marching through piety into the pocket, and making religion a stalking-horse for plunder.

The child which had been sucking for a year past at her breast was taken from her, some little time before her execution. Dreadful to tell! she gave it up without a pang; she parted from it without emotion.

Her body was conveyed in a cart to the Infirmary at Leeds. The road from York to Leeds was thronged the whole of the afternoon with foot passengers, horses, and gigs, returning from the execution; and notwithstanding the lateness of the hour (eleven in the evening) when the cart with her body approached the town, it was met by a number of people.

On the following day (Tuesday, March 21st) the body was exhibited in the Surgeons' Room at the Infirmary, at three-pence each person, and an immense number of people were admitted to view her remains; the greater part of whom evinced predominant superstition, by touching some part of the body before they left the room, to prevent her terrific interference with their nocturnal dreams. It was fully expected by the followers of Joanna, that the shell in which her body was conveyed would have been found empty, and that, though sufficiently strangled, the witch had taken her flight.



DESCRIPTION OF THE

GREAT BELL OF MOSCOW,

AND NOTICES RESPECTING OTHER BELLS OF EXTRAORDINARY DIMENSIONS.

Our ancestors entertained some extraordinary notions respecting bells. Matthew Paris observes, that anciently the use of them was prohibited in mourning, though at present they constitute one of its principal ceremonies. Mabillon adds, that it was an ancient custom to ring the bells for persons at the point of death, to advertise the people to pray for them: hence our passing-bells. The passing-bell, in-

deed, was originally rung for two purposes; the one to bespeak the prayers of all good christians for a soul just departing; the other, to drive away the evil spirits who lurked at the bed's foot, and about the house, ready to seize their prey, or at least to molest and terrify the soul in its passage: but by the ringing of that bell, for it was thought that evil spirits were much afraid of bells, they were kept aloof, and the soul, like a hunted hare, gained the start, or that what by sportsmen is termed *law*. Hence, perhaps, exclusively of the additional labour was occasioned the high price demanded for tolling the greatest bell of the church; for, since that was louder, the evil spirits were obliged to remove farther off to be out of its sound, and the poor soul obtained so much more the start of them; besides, as it was heard at a greater distance it would consequently procure the dying person a greater number of prayers. This dislike of spirits to bells is thus mentioned in the *golden legend* by Wynkin de Worde:—"It is said, the evill spirytes that ben in the regyon of thayre, doubte moche when they here the belles rongen: and this is the cause why the belles ben rongen whan it thondreth, and whan grete tempeste and outrages of wethet happen, to the ende that the feinds and wycked spirytes should be abashed and flee, and cease of the movynge of tempeste."

Lobineau observes, that the custom of ringing bells at the approach of thunder is of some antiquity; but that the design was not so much to shake the air, and so dissipate the thunder, as to call the people to church to pray that the parish might be preserved from the terrible meteor.

It appears, that among some of the nations of the east, bells, especially such as are of very large dimensions, are highly valued and venerated; but whether this estimation proceeds from similar notions of their virtues we are not informed. The Chinese, in particular, manifest a strong predilection for very large bells. At Nankin, we are told, were

some, cast about three hundred years ago by the first emperor of the preceding dynasty, of such prodigious weight that they brought down the tower in which they hung; the whole building fell to ruin, and the bells have ever since lain on the ground. One of them is near twelve English feet in height, its diameter is seven feet and a half, and its circumference twenty-three: in figure it is almost cylindrical, except for a swelling about the middle; and the thickness of the metal about the edges is seven inches. From the dimensions of this bell its weight is computed at fifty thousand pounds. Each of these bells has its respective name, as the *hanger*, the *eater*, the *sleeper*, &c. Father Le Comte adds, that at Pekin are seven other bells, weighing one hundred and twenty thousand pounds a-piece; but the sounds even of the largest are very dull, as they are struck with a wooden instead of an iron clapper.

The Russians, however, have surpassed all other nations in the size of their bells. With those people, indeed, bells form no inconsiderable part of public worship, as the length or shortness of their peals denotes the greater or less sanctity of the day. They are hung in belfries detached from the churches, and do not swing like ours, but are fixed immoveably to the beams, and rung by a rope tied to the clapper, and pulled sideways. Some of these bells are of truly stupendous dimensions; one in the tower of St. Ivan's church weighs three thousand five hundred and fifty-one Russian poods, or one hundred and twenty-seven thousand eight hundred and thirty-six English pounds. It hangs beneath others, which, though of less size, are enormous, and is forty feet nine inches in circumference, and sixteen inches and a half thick. It is used on important occasions only, and when it sounds a deep and hollow murmur vibrates all over Moscow, like the fullest and lowest tones of a vast organ, or the rolling of distant thunder.

In Russia it has always been esteemed a meritorious act of

religion to present a church with bells, and the piety of the donor was measured by their magnitude. According to this standard Boris Godunoff, who gave a bell of two hundred and eighty-eight thousand pounds to the cathedral of Moscow, was the most pious sovereign of Russia, until he was surpassed by Alexis, at whose expence a bell was cast, weighing upwards of four hundred and forty-three thousand pounds, and which exceeds in size every thing of the kind in the known world. It has long been a theme of wonder, and is mentioned by almost all travellers. The Russians and the people of Moscow maintain, that it was cast during the reign of the Empress Anne, probably from the female figure on the outside, which may have been designed for a representation of the Virgin Mary. Their tradition is evidently false, for that princess did not ascend the throne till 1730, and this bell is described by Augustine, who was ambassador from Germany to the Court of Russia in 1661, and asserts that it was founded in 1653 by Alexis. His account of the weight of metal employed for the purpose, and his measurement of the bell, approach too near the truth to suppose that any other was intended by him. Hanway, in his description, has adopted, without sufficient inquiry, several popular errors, perpetuated by tradition, respecting this bell, "which," says he, "is indeed stupendous, and surprises equally on account of its size and the folly of those who caused it to be made." But the Russians for a time immemorial have had a strange ambition of this kind. The bell in question, weighing near twelve thousand three hundred and twenty-seven poods (four hundred and forty-three thousand seven hundred and seventy-two pounds English) was cast in the reign of the late Empress Anne: the sound rather amazed and deafened, than delighted the inhabitants. It cost a very great sum; for every one, ambitious to contribute towards it, threw some gold or silver into the furnaces, which were four in number; these furnaces had cocks,

which let off the metal into the mould, the geometrical dimensions are as in the plate annexed. This bell was made in a pit, over which it had been hung; but the beam which supported it being burnt, on occasion of a great fire, it gave way and the fall made a breach in it as expressed." (Travels in Russia, vol. i. p. 93.)

From the annexed representation, reduced from Hanway's engraving, with the scales, was designed only to exhibit an outline of the figure of this enormous bell; with his delineation and imperfect account comprized nearly all that was known respecting it till Dr. Clarke, in his *Travels in Russia*, a work too firmly established in the public favour to need our commendation, corrected his errors and made us more minutely acquainted with this prodigy of art, therefore we have added to Hanway's outline, a sketch of some of the ornaments as represented by Dr. Clarke.

" The great bell," says the author just mentioned, (Travels, vol. i. p. 114.) " known to be the largest ever founded, is in a deep pit in the midst of the Kremlin. The history of its fall is a fable; and as writers are accustomed to copy each other, the story continues to be propagated. The fact is, the bell remains in the same place where it was originally cast. It never was suspended; the Russians might as well attempt to suspend a first-rate line of battle ship, with all her guns and stores. A fire took place in the Kremlin; the flames caught the building erected over the pit where the bell yet remained; in consequence of this the metal became hot; and, water thrown to extinguish the fire fell upon the bell, causing the fracture which has taken place. The plate will give an accurate representation of its present appearance, and also of the descent into the cave, by means of a double ladder. The bell reaches, as may be seen, from the bottom of the cave to the roof. The entrance is by a trap door, placed even with the surface of the earth. We found the steps very dangerous; some were wanting, and others broken. In conse-

quence of this I had a severe fall down the whole extent of the first flight, and a narrow escape for my life, in not having my scull fractured upon the bell. After this accident, a sentinel was stationed at the trap door, to prevent people becoming victims to their curiosity. He might have been as well employed in mending the ladders, as in waiting all day to say they were broken. The bell is truly a mountain of metal. It is said to contain a very large proportion of gold and silver. While it was in fusion, the nobles and the people cast in, as votive offerings, their plate and money. I endeavoured, in vain, to assay a small part. The natives regard it with superstitious veneration, and they would not allow even a grain to be filed off. At the same time it may be said, the compound has a white shining appearance, unlike bell-metal in general; and perhaps its silvery aspect has strengthened, if not excited, a conjecture respecting the costliness of its constituents.

On festival days, peasants visit the bell as they would resort to a church, considering it an act of devotion, and crossing themselves as they descend the steps. The bottom of the pit is covered with water, mud, and large pieces of timber; these, added to the darkness, renders it always an unpleasant and unwholesome place, in addition to the danger arising from the ladders leading to the bottom. I went frequently there, in order to ascertain the dimensions of the bell with exactness. To my great surprise, during one of those visits, half a dozen Russian officers, whom I found in the pit, agreed to assist me in the admeasurement. It so nearly agreed with the account published by Jonas Hanway, that the difference is not worth notice. This is somewhat remarkable, considering the difficulty of exactly measuring what is partly buried in the earth, and the circumference of which is not entire. No one, I believe, has yet ascertained the size of the base; this would afford still greater dimensions than those we obtained; but it is entirely buried. About ten persons were

present when I measured the part exposed to observation. We applied a strong cord, close to the metal, in all parts of its periphery, and round the lower part where it touches the ground, taking care, at the same time, not to stretch the cord. From the piece of the bell broken off, it was ascertained that we had thus measured within two feet of its lower extremity. The circumference obtained was sixty-seven feet and four inches; allowing a diameter of twenty-two feet, five inches, and one-third of an inch. We then took the perpendicular height from the top, and found it correspond exactly with the statement made by Hanway, namely, twenty-one feet four inches and a half. In the stoutest part, that in which it should have received the blow of the hammer, its thickness equalled twenty-three inches. We were able to ascertain this by placing our hands under water, where the fracture has taken place: this is above seven feet high from the lip of the bell. The weight of this enormous mass of metal has been computed to be 443,772 lbs.; which, if valued at three shillings a pound, amounts to 66,565*l.* 16*s.* lying unemployed and of no use to any one."

The reader is referred to our first volume, p. 181, for a poetical description of this prodigious bell; and in vol. ii. p. 422, will be found, notices respecting the great bells of Lincoln, Erfurt, and Strasburg.

In order to afford the reader a medium of comparison which must place the gigantic dimensions of this bell in the clearest light, we subjoin the weight of the largest bells in England. Great Tom of Christ Church, Oxford, weighs 17,000lbs., and Tom of Lincoln, 9894. The latter is twenty-two feet eight inches in circumference, and would hold 4024 gallons. Peter of Exeter Cathedral weighs 12,500 lbs.; the great bell of St. Paul's, London, 11,470, and Dunstan of Canterbury, 7,840. All these, however, are far surpassed by a bell in the great church at Rouen, in France, weighs 36,000 lbs. which, as we are told by Weever, bears this inscription:

Je suis George d'Ambois,
Qui ai trente cinque mille pois,
Mais lui qui me pesera
Trente six mille me trouvera,

which he thus renders:

I am George of Ambois,
Thirty-five thousand in pois;
But he that shall weigh me
Thirtie-six thousand shall find me.

Encyc. Britannica.

The practice of ringing bells in change, or regular peals, is said to be peculiar to England, whence Britain has been denominated by foreigners *the ringing island.* The custom seems to have commenced in the time of the Saxons, and to have been common before the Conquest; but bell-ringing was not reduced to a regular science till about two centuries ago, since which time several societies have been formed in different parts of the kingdom for the practice of it. Of one of these formed in London, under the name of the *College Youths,* Sir Matthew Hale, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, is reported in his youthful days to have been a member; and in the life of that learned and upright judge, written by Bishop Burnet, some facts are mentioned which favour this relation.

About the year 1684, Abraham Rudhall, of the city of Gloucester, brought the art of bell-founding to great perfection: his descendants continued the business, and by a list which they published about forty years ago, it appears that the family had in peals and odd bells, cast to the amount of three thousand five hundred and ninety-four. The peals of St. Dunstan's in the East, St. Bride's, and St. Martin's in the Fields, are among the number. At the great foundry in Whitechapel, have been cast since 1738, no less than two

hundred and ninety-two peals of musical church bells, forming a total of two thousand and one. Among these are the ten-bell peals of Bow Church, London, and York Minster; four of twelve bells, and one of seven for St. Petersburg, in Russia.

The heaviest ring of tuneable bells in this country is at Exeter; it consists of ten bells; the tenor weighs sixty-seven cwt. and is six feet in diameter at the skirt. There are in England twelve peals of twelve bells; a list of which, with the weight of the tenor belonging to each, is annexed for the gratification of such as are curious on the subject:

St. Saviour's Church, London - -	51 cwt.
Christ Church, Spitalfields, ditto -	44
St. Michael's, Cornhill, ditto - -	40
St. Giles's, Cripplegate, ditto - -	36
St. Martin's in the Fields, ditto - -	34
St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, ditto -	30
St. Bride's, Fleet Street, ditto - -	28½
St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich -	40
St. Martin's, Birmingham - - -	36
St. Chad's, Shrewsbury - - - -	34
Great St. Mary's, Cambridge - -	28

In Great Britain and Ireland there are fifty peals of ten bells; three hundred and sixty of eight; six hundred of six; five hundred of five; and upwards of seven hundred of four, three, and two bells.

A peal of twelve bells is capable of producing 479,001,600 changes, which, with a tenor of forty cwt., admitting about twenty-one changes each minute, would, if kept continually going, require no less than forty-four years.

HESTER HAMMERTON,

THE FEMALE SEXTON, OF KINGSTON, SURREY.

HESTER HAMMERTON, who officiated for many years as sexton to the parish of Kingston, was born at that place, and baptized March 16, 1711. Her father, Abraham Hammerton, performed the same office, in which his daughter was accustomed to assist him. On the 2d of March, 1730, they were employed, together with Thomas German, Hammerton's son-in-law, in preparing a grave for the remains of Mr. George Hammond, of London, in the ancient chapel of St. Mary, adjoining to the south side of the church; but digging too near one of the main pillars, the whole chapel fell down and buried them in the ruins. By this accident, Abraham Hammerton, Richard Milles, and Sarah Smith were killed on the spot. Hester and her brother-in-law were covered in the grave by the rubbish, and after lying seven hours in this dismal situation were, to the astonishment of all, dug out alive, but severely injured. The former survived the accident sixteen years, and the latter forty-three; dying at Kingston, April, 1773, aged 68.

Hester Hammerton, who, after this fatal catastrophe, was appointed successor to her father, was a strong robust lusty woman, of a comely countenance and good complexion. At the time when the chapel fell on her, she received a hurt which prevented her ever afterwards from wearing stays. Her usual dress, therefore, was a man's waistcoat and hat, a long loose gown, and a silk handkerchief tied round her neck, as represented in the engraving; but on Sundays she would dress extremely clean and neat in a gown of the then fashion, a mob cap, with frilled border and ribbon, and a nosegay in her bosom.

She was very fond of all kinds of manly diversions, such as cricket, foot-ball, bull-baiting; also of smoaking and asso-

ciating with men, but nevertheless she preserved her moral character unimpeached. If any person offered to take liberties with her, she never failed to resent the affront, and her fist inflicted merited chastisement on the offender. She possessed great bodily strength, and would dig all the graves and ring the great bell herself. She died at Kingston, and was buried February 28, 1746, in the 35th year of her age.

The strength and resolution of this woman were displayed while she performed the duties of sexton, on the following occasion.

Philip Wilkinson and William Sweet, two thieves, went from London to Kingston, with an intent to rob the church of the communion plate; but not succeeding in this design, they took the opportunity, after Sunday morning service, to conceal themselves in the church, and began to rip off the gold lace and fringe that was on the pulpit hangings. Hester Hammerton, at that instant coming into the church, to ring the two o'clock bell, and seeing what they were doing, resolutely seized one of them by the collar, and threw him over the reading desk into the pew below; when the other came up to her, and gave her so violent a blow on the head that it stunned her. She fell and they both made off.

Some time after, a strange boy was seen lurking about the tower; he was taken up and examined, and threatened to be sent to prison, if he did not give a good account of himself. The boy being affrighted, said, that if they would not send him to prison, he would tell who robbed the church. He then gave information where Wilkinson and Sweet were to be found. They were both taken, and tried at the assizes at Kingston, found guilty, and executed in the market place, on Thursday the 10th of April, 1735. They both declared their innocence to the last moment. One of them was a Roman Catholic, and had a priest to attend him.

Hopkins Switzer, a locksmith in the town, made oath, in the Town Hall, that on Tuesday evening the 8th of April,

1735, William Sweet sent for him, and told him in the prison that he (Sweet) was in the church when it was robbed, but that Wilkinson his companion carried off the gold lace. Sweet was in hopes of a reprieve, and charged the deponent not to divulge this confession till he (Sweet) was dead.

The bodies of the above two men, after execution, were carried into the Castle Inn yard, and no particular account was given of them afterwards. As christian burial was refused them, on account of the crime of sacrilege, of which they had been convicted, it was not till above seventy years afterwards that a discovery was made, which seems to clear up this matter. August 25, 1807—As some workmen were digging a hole in the garden of Mr. John Smallpiece the butcher, near Clattern-bridge, (late Mr. Laming's garden), the skeletons of two men lying together were discovered. These were conjectured to be the remains of Wilkinson and Sweet. The garden in which they were found was a bowling green, and belonged to the Castle Inn, at the time when the bodies of those two men were left in the yard, and there is no reason to doubt that, as it was generally supposed, they were buried in that bowling green.

DESCRIPTION OF THE REMARKABLE ERUPTION OF THE SOUFFRIER MOUNTAIN, IN THE ISLAND OF ST. VINCENT, ON THURSDAY NIGHT, THE 30TH OF APRIL, 1812.

The Souffrier Mountain, the most northerly of the lofty chain running through the centre of the island of St. Vincent, and the highest of the whole, as computed by the most accurate survey that has yet been taken, had for some time past indicated much disquietude; and from the extraordinary frequency and violence of earthquakes, which are calculated

to have exceeded two hundred within the last year, portended some great movement or eruption. The apprehension, however, was not so immediate as to restrain curiosity, or to prevent repeated visits to the crater, which of late had been more numerous than at any former period, even up to Sunday the 26th of April, when some gentlemen ascended it, and remained there for some time. Nothing unusual was then remarked, or any external difference observed, except rather a stronger emission of smoke from the interstices of the conical hill, at the bottom of the crater. To those who have not visited this romantic and wonderful spot, a slight description of it, as it lately stood, is previously necessary and indispensable to form any conception of it, and to the better understanding the account which follows; for no one living can expect to see it again in its former perfection and beauty.

About two thousand feet from the level of the sea (calculating from conjecture) on the south side of the mountain, and rather more than two-thirds of its height, opens a circular chasm, somewhat exceeding half a mile in diameter, and between four or five hundred feet in depth: exactly in the centre of this capacious bowl rose a conical hill about two hundred and sixty or three hundred feet in height, and about two hundred in diameter, richly covered and variegated with shrubs, brushwood, and vines, above half way up, and for the remainder powdered over with virgin sulphur to the top. From the fissures in the cone and interstices of the rocks, a thin white smoke was constantly emitted, occasionally tinged with a slight bluish flame. The precipitous sides of this magnificent amphitheatre were fringed with various evergreens and aromatic shrubs, flowers, and many Alpine plants. On the north and south sides of the base of the cone were two pieces of water, one perfectly pure and tasteless, the other strongly impregnated with sulphur and alum. This lonely and beautiful spot was rendered more enchanting by the sin-

gularly melodious notes of a bird, an inhabitant of these upper solitudes, and altogether unknown to the other parts of the island: hence principally called, or supposed to be, invisible; though it certainly has been seen, and is a species of the merle.

A century had now elapsed since the last convulsion of the mountain, or since any other elements had disturbed the serenity of this wilderness than those which are common to the tropical tempest. It apparently slumbered in primeval solitude and tranquillity, and from the luxuriant vegetation and growth of the forest which covered its sides from the base nearly to the summit, seemed to discountenance the fact, and falsify the records of the ancient volcano. Such was the majestic, peaceful Souffrier on April the 27th; but we trod on "ignem repositum cineri doloso," and our imaginary safety was soon to be confounded by the sudden danger of devastation.

Just as the plantation bells rang twelve at noon on Monday the 27th, an abrupt and dreadful crash from the mountain, with a severe concussion of the earth, and tremulous noise in the air, alarmed all around it. [1] The resurrection of this fiery furnace was proclaimed in a moment by a vast column of thick, black, ropy smoke, like that of an immense glass-house, bursting forth at once, and mounting to the sky; showering down sand with gritty calcined particles of earth and favilla mixed, on all below. This, driven before the wind towards Wallibon and Morne Ronde, darkened the air like a cataract of rain, and covered the ridges, woods, and cane-pieces with light grey coloured ashes, resembling snow when slightly covered with dust. As the eruption increased this continual shower expanded, destroying every appearance of vegetation. At night a very considerable degree of ignition was observed on the lips of the crater; but it is not asserted, that there was as yet any visible ascension of flame. The same awful scene presented itself on Tues-

day; the fall of favilla and calcined pebbles still increasing, and the compact pitchy column from the crater rising perpendicularly to an immense height, with a noise at intervals like the muttering of distant thunder.

On Wednesday the 29th, all these menacing symptoms of horror and combustion still gathered more thick and terrific for miles around the dismal and half-obscured mountain. The prodigious column shot up with quicker motion, dilating as it rose like a balloon. The sun appeared in total eclipse, and shed a meridian twilight over us, that aggravated the wintry gloom of the scene now completely powdered over with falling particles. It was evident that the crisis was as yet to come, that the burning fluid was struggling for a vent, and labouring to throw off the superincumbent strata and obstructions, which suppressed the ignivomous torrent. At night, it was manifest, that it had greatly disengaged itself from its burthen, by the appearance of fire flashing now and then, flaking above the mouth of the crater.

On Thursday, the memorable 30th of April, the reflection of the rising sun on this majestic body of curling vapour was sublime beyond imagination; any comparison of the Glaciers, of the Andes, or Cordilleras with it, can but feebly convey an idea of the fleecy whiteness and brilliancy of this awful column of intermingled and wreathed smoke and clouds: it afterwards assumed a more sulphureous cast, like what we call thunder-clouds, and in the course of the day a ferruginous and sanguine appearance, with much livelier action in the ascent, a more extensive dilation, as if almost freed from every obstruction; afternoon, the noise was incessant, and resembled the approach of thunder still nearer and nearer, with a vibration that affected the feelings and hearing: as yet there was no convulsive motion or sensible earthquake. Terror and consternation now seized all beholders. The Charraibs, settled at Morne Ronde, at the foot of the Souffrier, abandoned their houses, with their live

stock, and every thing they possessed, and fled precipitately towards town. The negroes became confused, forsook their work, looked up to the mountain, and as it shook, trembled with the dread of what they could neither understand or describe; the birds fell to the ground, overpowered with showers of favilla, unable to keep themselves on the wing; the cattle were starving for want of food, as not a blade of grass or a leaf was now to be found; the sea was much discoloured, but in no-wise uncommonly agitated; and it is remarkable, that throughout the whole of this violent disturbance of the earth it continued quite passive, and did not at any time sympathize with the agitation of the land.

About four o'clock P. M. the noise became more alarming, and just before sun-set the clouds reflected a bright copper-colour, suffused with fire. Scarcely had the day closed, when the flame burst at length pyramidically from the crater through the mass of smoke: the rolling of the thunder became more awful and deafening: electric flashes quickly succeeded, attended with loud claps; and now, indeed, the hurlyburly began. Those only who have witnessed such a sight can form any idea of the magnificence and variety of the lightning and electric flashes; some forked zig-zag playing across the perpendicular column from the crater, others shooting upwards from the mouth like rockets of the most dazzling lustre; others like shells with their trailing fuses flying in different parabolas, with the most vivid scintillations from the dark sanguine column, which now seemed inflexible and immovable by the wind.

Shortly after 7 P. M. the mighty caldron was seen to simmer, and the ebullition of lava to break out on the N.W. side. This immediately, after boiling over the orifice, and flowing a short way, was opposed by the acclivity of a higher point of land, over which it was impelled by the immense tide of liquefied fire that drove it on, forming the figure V in grand illumination. Sometimes, when the ebullition slack-

ened or was insufficient to urge it over the obstructing hill, it recoiled back like a refluent billow from the rock, and then again rushed forward impelled by fresh supplies, and scaling every obstacle, carrying rocks and woods together, in its course down the slope of the mountain, until it precipitated itself down some vast ravine, concealed from our sight by the intervening ridges of Morne Ronde. Vast globular bodies of fire were seen projected from the fiery furnace, and bursting fell back into it, or over it, on the surrounding bushes, which were instantly set in flames.

About four hours from the lava boiling over the crater it reached the sea, as we could observe from the reflection of the fire and the electric flashes attending it. About half-past one, another stream of lava was seen descending to the eastward towards Rabacca. The thundering noise of the mountain, and the vibration of sound that had been so formidable hitherto, now mingled in the sullen monotonous roar of the rolling lava, became so terrible, that dismay was almost turned into despair. At this time the first earthquake was felt: this was followed by showers of cinders, that fell with the hissing noise of hail during two hours. At three o'clock, a rolling on the roofs of the houses indicated a fall of stones, which soon thickened, and at length descended in a rain of intermingled fire, that threatened at once the fate of Pompeii or Herculaneum. The crackling and coruscations from the crater at this period exceeded all that had yet passed. The eyes were struck with momentary blindness, and the ears stunned with the glomeration of sounds. People sought shelter in cellars, under rocks, or any where, for every where was nearly the same; and the miserable negroes flying from their huts were knocked down or wounded, and many killed in the open air. Several houses were set on fire. The estates situated in the immediate vicinity seemed doomed to destruction. Had the stones that fell been proportionably heavy to their size, not a living creature could have escaped

without death: these having undergone a thorough fusion, they were divested of their natural gravity, and fell almost as light as pumex, though in some places as large as a man's head. This dreadful rain of stones and fire lasted upwards of an hour, and was again succeeded by cinders from three till six o'clock in the morning. Earthquake followed earthquake almost momentarily, or rather the whole of this part of the island was in a state of continued oscillation; not agitated by shocks, vertical or horizontal; but undulated like water shaken in a bowl.

The break of day, if such it could be called, was truly terrific. Darkness was only visible at eight o'clock; and the birth of May dawned like the day of judgment: a chaotic gloom enveloped the mountain, and an impenetrable haze hung over the sea, with black sluggish clouds of a sulphureous cast. The whole island was covered with favilla, cinders, scoria, and broken masses of volcanic matter. It was not until the afternoon, the muttering noise of the mountain sunk gradually into a solemn yet suspicious silence. Such were the particulars of this sublime and tremendous scene, from commencement to catastrophe. To describe the effects is, if possible, a more difficult and truly most distressing task.

The phenomena occasioned by this convulsion of nature in the island of Barbadoes, are described in an interesting manner in the following letters:—

Barbadoes, May 2.

Yesterday morning, at four o'clock, the atmosphere was perfectly clear and light; but at six, thick clouds had covered the horizon, from whence issued, in torrents like rain and particles finer than sand, volcanic matter; and at eight, it was as totally dark as we ever recollect to have seen the most stormy night. It then became necessary to procure lights, not only in the dwellings of families, but lanterns were

obliged to be used in passing from one part of the street to another.

On the preceding night it however seems, that many persons heard sounds like those which follow the discharging of cannon, and some go so far as to say, that they clearly observed the flashes to leeward of us, the same as if vessels were engaged at sea; therefore, as these clouds came from the northward, it is much to be dreaded that some one of the neighbouring islands has experienced the dismal effects of a volcanic eruption. This awful state of darkness continued until twenty minutes past twelve at noon, when the glimmerings of Heaven's light were gradually perceptible, and about one o'clock it was so far clear as to be compared with that of about seven o'clock in the evening. The eruptive matter, however, still continued, and, as was the case during the whole time of its descent, numerous flocks of exotic birds were heard warbling the melancholy note of croaking, as if they were messengers of past, or presages of future evil.

We shall, in common with our fellow inhabitants, feel extremely anxious for arrivals from the neighbouring islands; should these fortunately have escaped any convulsion of the earth, this phenomenon will form a subject of much philosophical interest and learned discussion. To describe the feelings that pervaded the community during this awful period, is impossible—it is far more easy to be conceived. The sandy particles appear to have fallen in this neighbourhood to the depth of about three-quarters of an inch, but, in the north part of the island it is said to have been considerably deeper.

Extract from a letter written by a young lady, resident at the town of Barbadoes.

May 2d, 1812, *Morning* 10 *o'clock.*

"MY DEAREST MOTHER,

"At this time yesterday we thought ourselves on the verge

of eternity, and awaited in total darkness and almost uninterrupted silence, the expected shock that was to destroy us. It was a dreadful day. More horrible in recollection than I felt it to be at the time. I was then amused by so wonderful an appearance, and diverted by the absurd fears of the people about me for their precious selves. It began, I believe, about two o'clock on Friday morning, by a sound like the report of distant guns; several, it appeared to us, were fired in succession. I thought they proceeded from ships in distress, and yet the night was perfectly calm. I have heard to-day, that the governor was called up at that time, and went up to the castle, supposing there was an engagement at sea, and the soldiers were under arms all night. Mr. —— and Mr. —— went down to the sea side, but could not distinguish any thing. The night was very dark. I thought it the longest night I had ever known, and was watching for some appearance of daylight that I might get up, when Margaret, the servant maid, came into my room, and told me in a voice of terror that it was past seven o'clock. It was quite dark. I could but just distinguish Margaret's figure as she stood between my bed and the open window. I dressed myself, and went down stairs. All the family were now assembled, and we saw lights in all the surrounding houses. I went into the balcony, and felt that it rained, as I thought, but returning into the room I found I was covered with wet sand or ashes. It fell on our hands like thick snow. Every one thought an earthquake was coming. Some of us went out, but were soon forced to return. It was impossible to proceed. We could not see each other, and were almost blinded by the dust which fell, not as if driven by the wind, but in heavy showers. There was not the least breath of wind. The darkness seemed to increase. The church was now lighted, and the bell rang for prayers. Mr. —— borrowed from our next door neighbour, the younger Pliny's description of an eruption of Mount Vesu-

vius, and read it. Pliny describes a fall of dust or ashes previous to the great shock. We all, I believe, thought the shock was coming.

After breakfast, I proposed going to church, but this was not approved of. My next plan of reading prayers was not better received. At length we separated. Mr. —— read the Bible in his own room, and I the morning service to Miss —— in mine. We passed an hour thus, and then met our inmates again, to wonder at the still increasing darkness. When the clock struck twelve I could not see my hand as I held it before my eyes, though standing at an open window. Such pitchy darkness I never beheld before. The negroes ran about the streets with torches. You have seen the red glare of the firemen's torches blazing along the streets of London on a very dark night: imagine the horror of such a sight at twelve o'clock in the day. At one o'clock I could just distinguish the cocoa-tree in the next yard, which is much higher than any of the surrounding houses. Half an hour after we had a most beautiful picture of a dark winter's night, when every thing is covered with snow. At two it was light, but such a light as I never saw before. The place where the sun was I can scarcely say was perceptible. It looked like the moon through a thick fog. I believe you will find a very good description of this appearance in the poem of the ancient mariner. We could now plainly see the dust, which fell without intermission during the whole day. At six this awful day closed, and at eleven we were all in bed. And now, I must say, that the horrible calmness, the impenetrable darkness, which seemed to veil from our eyes the destruction that awaited us, was to me sublime and beautiful. I would not for worlds have been absent from the scene. If any power could have offered at that moment to transport me even to England and you, I believe I should have refused. Our appearance to day is more wretched than you can conceive. We are absolutely buried

in dust or ashes, I know not which it is. It has metamorphosed every thing, made the blacks white, the whites black. We eat it, we drink it, we sleep on it. I have saved a small bottle to shew my friends, when I return to England, of West Indian rain.

May 7. This phenomenon has been accounted for in a melancholy manner; by the destruction of part of the island of St. Vincent. Of course you will hear a more circumstantial account than I can give of this dreadful earthquake. They say there have been two hundred shocks of earthquakes (light ones) in the space of twelve months. We are still buried in dust.

The two following letters on the subject of this explosion were written by a member of the university of Oxford, resident at Nevis, and transmitted to the Editor of the Oxford Herald.

Nevis, 4th May, 1812.

SIR,

I LOSE no time in communicating to you an account, though imperfect, of the extraordinary phenomenon which took place in this quarter between the hours of three and four in the morning of the 1st of May, and is, I greatly apprehend, the result of another convulsion on the Spanish Main, still more dreadful and more extensive in its devastation than that of Maundy Thursday, which overwhelmed the magnificent city of the Carracas, with its numerous and wealthy population.

Upon the morning of Friday last (the 1st of May) a number of explosions were heard by the greater part of the inhabitants of this island, resembling the report of artillery, by which they were roused from their sleep and not a little alarmed—by those who reside on the northern side of the island, this cannonading was for a considerable time supposed to proceed from an unfortunate ship in distress, and

some actually set out for the beach, in the hope of being able to afford relief, while those who lived on the opposite side of the island entertained a similar idea; and one gentleman, who resides close to Saddle-hill, actually sent to the look-out post to ascertain whether the firing was not in the direction of Redondo and Montserrat: indeed one of the most striking features of these explosions was their report appearing in the immediate vicinity of each observer, in whatever part of the island, or at which-soever side of the mountain he chanced to be.

At Charlestown the houses shook as though cannon had been fired in the streets, and the master of the King David, at present in the road, declares his ship shook with the violence of the concussion, insomuch that he conceived the firing to proceed from the fort opposite to the birth in which he was moored.

At Mr. Tobin's, about two miles east of the town, and situated near the base of the mountain, the same reports were distinctly heard with equal violence; the loudest explosion taking place exactly at half-past three in the morning.

During the whole of Friday the sea was uncommonly agitated, and a most terrific surf came rolling in from the S.W. in the channel which separates the north-western extremity of this island from St. Kitt's, and is known by the name of the Narrows; the agitation of the water was such as to deter one of those small vessels called Dragers, which carry sugars from the distant estates near the coast to the ships in the road, from attempting to pass; and all communication with the sister island of St. Kitt's was prevented for the day. Whether this extraordinary agitation of the water was immediately attendant upon the explosions or not, I cannot say.

The inhabitants of St. Kitt's were equally alarmed with those of Nevis by these noises; and a brig, the Nautilus of London, which anchored in the road of Charlestown about

noon on Friday, reported having heard the same noises between Guadaloupe and Montserrat; the mate of this vessel declares he distinctly counted fifteen separate shots, which he imagined to proceed from an engagement between two ships. Some persons in Charlestown and its vicinity, had the curiosity to count the reports they heard, the number of which, according to some, exceeded fifty, with distinct pauses between each.

The master of the ship Resolution, of London, which reached this island upon Saturday evening, states that being in the fleet bound hither from Europe, last from Barbadoes, he heard the same firing with that which alarmed us, upon the same morning, apparently to leeward of the island of St. Lucie; in consequence of which the Commodore made sail in the direction of the noise, conceiving it to proceed from a privateer attempting to cut off some of the sternmost ships of his convoy.

From the amazing extent of space through which it thus appears these unaccountable noises were heard, it is evident that the cause which produced them must be of the greatest magnitude; and that we may reasonably look forward with daily expectation to the arrival of news respecting some fresh and extensive calamity affecting the American continent about the period at which the cannonading was heard, allowing for the slow transmission of sound, especially in a direction contrary to the ordinary current of the wind. Of this event it is most probable that we shall here receive the first intelligence through England—however as a ship is just sailing for Europe, and this account, imperfect as it is, may probably be the first intimation which you can receive, I have resolved upon no account to miss the opportunity of communicating it to you. Should it appear deserving of notice, you have my free permission to insert it in your paper.

I now remain, Sir,

Your's, &c.

A CONSTANT READER.

Nevis, 8th May, 1812.

MR. EDITOR,

Since I sealed and dispatched my former letter, which you will receive by the same conveyance which takes this, I have seen Captain Hart, of the ship Resolution, of London, which sailed with the fleet from Barbadoes, I think, upon Wednesday, the 29th of April, and about two A. M. on the memorable morning of the following Friday, 1st of May, being abreast of the island of Martinique, those on board heard a number of explosions, to the amount of at least one hundred, resembling those which were heard in this island and St. Kitt's, and even as far North as St. Bartholomew's. Captain Hart says, he distinctly heard the report of great guns, with vollies of musketry in the intervals, and the impression of its being an engagement was so strong, that the Commodore of the fleet gave chace in the direction of the supposed firing for some time, conceiving that it proceeded from an attempt on the part of a privateer, to cut off some of the sternmost ships of the convoy. The sea at the time was remarkably smooth, and the weather singularly serene, the moon shining in silvery splendor.

By a vessel which made her escape from the island of St. Vincent's upon the eventful morning of the 1st. instant, and passed by here yesterday on her way to St. Kitt's, some intelligence has been received of the cause of these terrific noises; as yet, however, the reports which are afloat are no less various than contradictory; there is no doubt, however, that a most fatal and formidable convulsion has taken place in the island of St. Vincent, though I should hope, less fatal in its effects than rumour at present makes it. By one account we are informed that Kingston, the capital of the island, with the whole of its population, has been swallowed up; but the account which I conceive to be the more probable is, that the eruption took place in the Charaib district, which occupies the northern extremity of the island, and in which place,

about the year 1718, a volcano broke out and continued burning for some time, as may be seen by a reference to an "Account of the island of Nevis," written in a series of letters, by the Rev. William Smith. I am the more inclined to this latter opinion, from the report of the master of a small vessel, lately arrived here, who states, that passing between the islands of St. Lucie and St. Vincent, on the morning of the 1st of May, he not only heard the noises I have so often mentioned in this and my preceding letter, but had his decks covered with a shower of hot ashes and cinders.

The following is Mr. Smith's account of the eruption of 1718, which, in many of its concomitant symptoms, bears a close resemblance to the present:

"In the year 1718, or thereabout, one Mr. Boyd, a merchant, going from St. Christopher's, in a sloop, towards Barbadoes, and being out of sight of all land, on a sudden, in the forenoon, if I mistake not, the sky grew so dark, and such a horrible noise, far surpassing the loudest thunder, was the same moment heard, insomuch that they all believed the final dissolution of Nature's frame to be just then commencing; there falling, likewise, instantaneously so thick a shower of ashes that the sloop's deck was covered two or three inches deep with them. They in fright enough turned back homewards; and Mr. Boyd shewed me some of the ashes, which exactly resembled Holman's ink Powder. It was soon after found out, that a large mountain in the island of St. Vincent, that in my time was wholly inhabited by negroes, who escaped out of a Guinea ship that was cast away unfortunately there many years ago, abounding in veins of sulphur and brimstone, blew up at once, viz. woods, rocks, &c. all together, which must be allowed to cause a most dreadful explosion. As I was always curious in things of a rare nature, I took notice that very day, as I was riding in Gingerland parish, that I heard six or seven dull bounces of noise, resembling those of cannon at a great distance, pretty quickly following each

other, at the exact time of this explosion. As the sky was quite clear in the eye of the wind, and as none of my acquaintance there took the same notice of the thing, I durst not venture to insist much upon hearing those dull bounces till I had seen Mr. Boyd. I suppose the weather to be somewhat thick and hazy, which might be the true reason why Mr. Boyd and the sloop's crew did not see land; for they must certainly be nearer to St. Vincent than they reckoned themselves to be. A narrative of this uncommon affair, with more circumstances attending it, was shortly after transmitted home to England, and printed, perhaps, among the Philosophical Transactions."—Natural History of the Island of Nevis, and the rest of the English Leeward Charibee Islands in America, with many other Observations on Nature and Art; particularly an Introduction to the Art of Decyphering. In eleven Letters from the Rev. Mr. Smith, sometime rector of St. John's, (Figtree,) at Nevis, and now rector of St. Mary's, in Bedford; to the Rev. Mr. Mason, B. D. Woodwardian Professor, and Fellow of Trinity College, in Cambridge:—Cambridge, 1745, pp. 60.

The reports which were heard upon the present occasion in this island were vastly louder than those observed by the Reverend Doctor, and awakened most of the inhabitants from their sleep. The ships in Charlestown road were shaken as though the fort had fired. It is, however, somewhat remarkable, that the reports heard by the fleet off Martinique, though so much nearer the scene of the melancholy catastrophe, did not exceed in loudness, as Captain Hart declares, those heard in this and the neighbouring islands, where they were universally supposed to proceed from some ship or ships at no great distance from the shore.

This morning, between the hours of four and five, after a heavy fall of rain, a smart shock of an earthquake was felt throughout this island; it has not, however, been attended with any other mischief than that of increasing the appre-

hensions which the late formidable events in our vicinity, and almost at our very doors, have excited. I know not whether, like the last shock upon the 11th of April last, this earthquake has been felt at St. Kitt's. A smart shock has, I am informed, been recently experienced at St. Thomas's; and about a year since, a remarkable fissure began to make its appearance in St. Bartholomew's, extending quite across the island from North to South; it created much alarm when first discovered, but habit has long since conquered the fears of the inhabitants. About the same time, during a dreadful storm of wind, rain, thunder, and lightning, in which the ship Rachael, of Bristol, was lost at Charlestown, a remarkable subsidence of a considerable portion, at least two acres, of Saddle Hill, in this island, took place, and was for some time erroneously ascribed to a volcanic cause: the fact appears to me, from an attentive examination on the spot, to be simply this, that owing to some accidental cause, certain springs situated at the base of the declivity became choaked, whereby an accumulation of their waters took place within the ground, which, partly from this cause, and partly likewise from the torrents of rain which fell at the time, had its cohesive powers so weakened as to be unable to support the superincumbent mass any longer, which of course giving way, gradually subsided till it came to a firmer basis.

I do not find that the Solfaterra, or the hot baths in this island have been in the least affected by the recent convulsions. I hardly expect that we shall escape without our share in the calamities which befal our neighbours.

Should, however, any thing fresh occur, and I survive, you shall have the best account of it which I am able to procure.

I must now conclude this long and tedious letter, and remain, Mr. Editor, your constant reader and sincere well wisher,

OXONIENSIS.

the accomplishment of any particular object. The history of all ages and of all countries teems with accounts of such privations, practised for the purposes of delusion and imposture: for if we consider with ever so little attention the austerities of certain orders of monks in the west, the self-inflicted tortures of the Hindoo penitents in the east, or the less imposing artifices of persons, who, like Ann Moore, have devoted themselves to painful abstinence, we shall be convinced that the motive of all is the same, a desire to gain the veneration of their fellow creatures, and to profit by their credulity.

Ann Moore, the details of whose case are differently related by different persons who profess to repeat her own statements, has long been resident at Tutbury, in Staffordshire. The contradictions to which we allude extend even to her age, which in 1809, was stated by Dr. Bourne and Mr. W. Robinson, at fifty-eight years; whereas Dr. Henderson was informed by her, that on the 31st of October, 1812, she would be fifty-one. Another account published in 1813 makes her sixty-four, and says, that in her youth she must have been considered handsome. Her eyes are still remarkably penetrating. In stature she would appear tall, if standing; but the usual position in which she sits up in bed is with her knees bent, and her legs doubled under her.

Respecting the early life of this woman our information is very scanty. It is well known, observes one of her historians, that in her younger days she was a notoriously immoral character, which appears not only from the accounts of her neighbours, but from the corroboration of her own testimony. About twenty years ago she was separated from her husband, and afterwards lived in open adultery with another man, by whom she has had two children, the eldest a young woman of eighteen, and the other a boy about sixteen. According to her own confession she is no novice in the arts of imposture; she acknowledges that she has once, through imposition,

passed for a religious person merely for the sake of worldly interest, under the mask of hypocrisy; but her natural disposition tended so much to evil that she was not able to conceal the deceit from the eyes of religious persons with whom she had formed acquaintance.

Agreeably to the account which she gave to Mr. Robinson, she was attacked in 1804, with a very severe illness, supposed from her description, to have been an inflammation of the bowels, from which, by the assistance of the surgeon of the village, she gradually recovered, after a confinement of thirteen weeks. This illness was succeeded in the same year by violent fits, which returned at intervals, accompanied with a spasmodic affection of the stomach. The following year she was seized with a second inflammation, not quite so violent as the former; and on her recovery, after being confined eleven weeks she found that it had greatly mitigated the spasms and fits. On the other hand, her appetite and the digestive powers of her stomach were considerably impaired, particularly the latter, so that from the irritability of that organ every thing that she took was rejected except tea, milk, puddings, and vegetables; and these she took in such small quantities as were thought inadequate to the support of life. In this state she continued till the spring of 1806. At this time she had the care of a boy afflicted with the scrophula, on whose body were a number of very offensive sores. It was not until the warm months of August and September that the disagreeable employment of dressing them seemed to affect her; she then found it impossible to divest herself of the idea that all the food which she took was impregnated with the taste and smell of the matter which issued from the scrophulous wounds of the boy. This increased her aversion to every thing that was offered her in the form of victuals, and after the boy had fallen a victim to the disease, in October, her nausea still continued. In November she found herself unable to do her usual work, which was picking or beating cotton. From this

period she subsisted upon tea, and with which she ate no more than a penny loaf in about a fortnight, till February 24, 1807, when finding a total want of appetite, and much pain after swallowing, she desisted entirely from taking any kind of solid food. For some time she continued to drink now and then a little tea and water; but afterwards, having no thirst, contented herself with washing her mouth only twice or thrice a week. Such was the general outline of her case, given by herself to those whom curiosity prompted to visit her.

The story of the *Fasting Woman of Tutbury*, who lived without food, without evacuations, and without sleep, was soon diffused far and wide. It is not surprising, however, that in this sceptical age there should have been found persons who entertained strong doubts of the truth of the reports that were circulated respecting her. For fourteen months, by her own reckoning, had she subsisted like the cameleon, on air alone, when, in order to remove these doubts, she offered to prove her veracity by submitting to be removed from her own home to the house of Mr. Jackson, grocer, of Tutbury, and to be watched for a considerable time. This watching took place between the 13th and 29th of September, 1808. Mr. Taylor, a surgeon of the neighbourhood went round the village to procure the attendance of the most respectable inhabitants. He made a point, as we are told, of rejecting all who, " in *his opinion*, were in the least degree liable to be imposed upon, or of a disposition that might be suspected to connive at imposture. He admitted no persons but such as most vehemently objected to the verity of the fact. Mr. H. Jackson," we are further assured, " having a thorough knowledge of the inhabitants, took upon himself the trouble of setting the watch; and he, being of the most invincible incredulity was well qualified for the purpose." So far all appears well; but here the biographer, or rather apologist of Ann Moore, makes this unfortunate admission: " When it

was known that Nanny had been under watch for forty hours and was challenging the investigation, great numbers of people, merely from curiosity, came to offer their services, so that there was not the least difficulty in procuring a sufficient number for the purpose. The principal care that remained to Mr. Jackson was the matching of people of different qualifications in such a manner as to afford greater security, and that the watch should be constantly and faithfully kept: in order to which, such persons as man and wife, brother and sister, &c. were never suffered to attend at the same time, nor any who were likely to be influenced in her favour. The watch was changed every four hours, and for farther satisfaction bills were posted in different parts of the town, announcing, 'This is to maintain that Ann Moore has taken no 'nourishment since Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock, and 'is truly and constantly watched. All persons are hereby 'challenged to disprove the fact, and may watch for them-'selves during the further period of time that shall, by medi-'cal consultation be determined to establish the same.'"

Dr. Henderson, in a pamphlet which abounds in shrewd remarks, and has perhaps contributed not a little to the detection of the imposture, in his comments on this passage says, "The truth is, that almost every one who *came to offer his service*, was permitted to undertake the task; and during the sixteen days that the watch continued, not fewer, as we were credibly informed, than from eighty to ninety different persons officiated. Among this number is it not highly probable that there may have been some of Ann Moore's private friends, who supplied her with food and connived at her eating and drinking? We are not told what were the respective characters of the individuals employed; whether they were persons of known probity and veracity; no security is given for their vigilance; no information is afforded as to the mode in which they were superintended; but we are called upon to place unlimited confidence in Mr. Taylor's *opinion* of their

liability to be imposed upon—in Mr. Jackson's *knowledge* of their characters, and his skill in *matching them together*."

Indeed, all the regulations and proceedings on this occasion are calculated to excite a suspicion of connivance. The bed it seems, was furnished with curtains, which at times were drawn all round; the watchers were not allowed to approach it; but the woman's daughter had free access every day, and might consequently introduce supplies of food whenever she pleased. This was actually done, if we may believe the testimony of a person, who, being one night upon the watch was struck by a sound resembling that which is produced by the drawing of a cork from a bottle, and plainly heard her swallow some liquid three times. This circumstance he did not fail to mention; but so strong was the popular opinion in her favour, that his report was totally disregarded.

It is admitted by Mr. Taylor himself, that during this watch Ann Moore did not altogether refrain from drinking. "In the course of the first three days of the investigation she swallowed in the whole about an ounce and a half of water; but happening to step into the room while she was swallowing it, the extreme misery of deglutition, and the violent rising of wind resisting its passage to a degree that almost seemed to threaten suffocation, induced me to dissuade her from taking any more, while the experiment that was to vindicate her veracity continued." All, therefore, that can be learned from this imperfect trial is, that Ann Moore was not seen taking any *solid* food during the space of sixteen days and nights; but it is acknowledged that before that time she had abundant opportunities of eating.

When the watch had ended she was removed to her own house, and Mr. Taylor published an account, stating, that for thirteen days she had lived without food, either solid or liquid. This account, so attested, gained implicit belief from great numbers who flocked to see her, and few departed without

leaving some token of their credulity or of their pity. In order to give additional weight to her case, and the more powerfully to interest the feelings of her visitors, she now professed to be very religious. The Bible, which she called her *best companion*, was laid on her bed; she asserted that her case was a miracle, an immediate interference of Divine Providence in her behalf; and her conversation was of such a stamp as led the ignorant to imagine her to be a person of extraordinary piety. This mask, however, was too unnatural not to be laid aside when she was thrown off her guard; for instance, when she was too hard pressed by pointed questions from those who still doubted. On such occasions she would vent such virulent language as fully evinced the absence of every religious principle. On this subject Dr. Henderson relates the following anecdote:—A gentleman from Derby, knowing her previous history, contrived to engage her in very free conversation, into which she entered very readily, and which she seemed to relish very much: but upon another visitor being announced, she instantly resumed a serious air, abandoning it only when the intruder on her gaiety had withdrawn.

This scheme of deception proved tolerably successful. From the different accounts of her case it appears, that before she began to attract the attention of the public she had laboured under the greatest distress, and had not even sufficient clothes to cover her bed; but, after the watching she became very comfortable, and had all necessary attendance provided for her. "The number of people who go to see her," observes a writer already quoted, "is astonishing, and every one giving her a trifle for the benefit of her children, she has by this time received something very handsome for them." According to the report of a medical gentleman of the place, she has turned the exhibition of her person to such account as to be able, in the course of the summer of 1812, to place the sum of 400*l.* in the public funds.

It was during the same summer that Dr. Henderson, physician to the Westminster Dispensary, in company with Mr. Lawrence, assistant surgeon to Bartholomew's Hospital, and another gentleman, paid a visit to Ann Moore on their way to the Lakes. They found her sitting up in a bed so constructed as scarcely to admit of her using the recumbent posture, her back being partly supported by a pillow. A large Bible lay before her, and she did not seem in the least discomposed by the abrupt entrance of the party. From the appearance of her countenance, which was natural and even healthy, and from that of her upper limbs, abdomen, and back, which they carefully examined, she might be called rather thin, but many persons of her age in perfect health are much thinner. The abdomen was not contracted, nor did it exhibit any peculiar appearance; neither was the pulsation of the aorta more distinctly perceptible than it is in the generality of persons. The lower extremities, however, seemed to a certain extent wasted and paralytic; the pulse was ninety-four, firm and regular; the heat natural; both the hands and feet were moist. Her mouth, as far as the gentlemen were permitted to examine it, shewed no deficiency of saliva; and a mirror held before her face was immediately covered with copious moisture. She spoke in a distinct and tolerably strong voice, and moved her arms and fingers with considerable force. There was an offensive urinous smell about the bed, and it was probably to prevent its being perceived that she always insisted on the chamber window being kept open even in the coldest weather.

In answer to the questions put to her, she said, that on the 31st of October she should be fifty-one years old; that she had tasted no solid food for upwards of five years, and no drink for nearly four years, neither had she any desire for either; that she never even wetted her lips except when she washed her face, which she did about once a week; that

she had no fæces since that day (August 3) five years, and had voided no urine since the week before Easter three years; though one of the company, in approaching her bed, happened to overturn an utensil placed under it obviously for her use, and partly filled with urine. She farther declared, that she had not slept or lain down in bed for more than three years; that she sometimes dozed with her head reclining on the pillow, but never so as to forget herself; that she had frequently blisters applied to the back of her neck on account of a giddiness in her head, and that they rose and discharged plentifully; but that in general she did not experience much easiness or feel pain, except on pressure of the left hypochondrium; that when she took snuff, which she did habitually, it produced a flow of mucus from the nostrils; that her hands were generally moist, and that she perspired freely over the whole surface of the body when she had fits. She pretended to be unable to open her mouth, because it occasioned severe pain behind the jaws; but as, upon examination, there seemed to be nothing to cause such a difficulty, and as it was evident when she spoke that she could separate her teeth to some extent without giving any indications of uneasiness, this is supposed to have been an artifice adopted from the apprehension either that her visitors might put her powers of deglutition to the test, or that the mere inspection of her tongue might prove the recent introduction of food. She asserted that she had lost the use of all the fingers of the left hand, except the index; the middle finger indeed she admitted could be moved by external force; but she was afterwards observed to use it without any difficulty.

Another instance of this kind of contradiction, so fatal to all pretensions to credibility, was exhibited in the presence of a Mr. Thompson, to whom she feigned herself in a state of such weakness, as rendered any attempt to move extremely

fatiguing and even painful. In the course of conversation, that gentleman intimated the expediency of a repetition of the watching, when she so completely forgot her situation that she raised herself upright in bed, a position, in which, as he was previously informed, she had not been for more than a year, clenched her fists, moved her arms and head about with as much force and ease as the most healthy woman, of an equal age, could possibly do, and talked at the same time most loudly and incessantly from the effect of violent passion.

From these contradictions, observed by himself and others, from the physical impossibilities of the case, and from various moral considerations, Dr. Henderson maintained, in a pamphlet published in March 1813, that there was every reason to consider the abstinence of Ann Moore as feigned, and to denounce her as an artful impostor. That she might be partially diseased and subsist on small quantities of FOOD, HE DID not attempt to deny; but that she actually did eat, drink, and sleep must, he contended, be apparent to every person of common discernment who witnessed her condition.

These sentiments were shared by many whose minds were not blinded by superstition and fanaticism, and who had not made a sacrifice of reason to credulity. The dread of experiments manifested on various occasions by Ann Moore, and her declaration that she would never submit to a second watching strengthened the doubts and suspicions of the sceptical. She once refused to allow Dr. Darwin to hold a mirror before her face, in order to examine her respiration, exclaiming, "No more experiments for me! I have suffered enough already from experiments." At another time she contrived to break a thermometer which a gentleman had put into her hand, to ascertain the heat of her body. When Mr. Thompson, who has been already mentioned, proposed a second watching, she said, that she had once been upon

her trial, to which she would not then have submitted but to oblige the minister, and for no person in the world would she undergo a second. Her female attendant, "who," adds Mr. Thompson, "is as well educated a hypocrite as her mistress, was pleased to style it *a trial for life.*" As if however to prepare for giving in when it might suit her convenience, or for any accidental exposure which might take place, she declared it to be her opinion that a time might come when God would restore her appetite.

At length the very partisans of this woman became convinced that it was absolutely necessary she should submit her pretensions to a second test, or be content to be considered an impostor. She reluctantly yielded to their solicitations, and in consequence a meeting of magistrates, clergymen, medical, and other gentlemen, was held at Tutbury on the 31st March, 1813, to consult on the best means of executing the proposal for a second watch. A committee of regulation was formed, and several resolutions passed, with a view to conducting this investigation in such a manner as fully to decide the question, whether she did or did not subsist without food; at the head of which was Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. of Rolleston. It was deemed expedient to extend the experiment to four entire weeks, and determined that magistrates, clergymen, and medical gentlemen only should constitute the watch, in order that the combined testimony of persons of unquestionable respectability might afford complete satisfaction to the public at large in regard to the result of the examination. Circular letters were sent to the gentlemen of the above-mentioned classes in the neighbouring towns, and a sufficient number for the purpose was soon obtained.

The committee met on Tuesday, April 20th, 1813, preparatory to the commencement of the watch which was fixed for the following day. As an additional precaution against any deception, it was thought proper that Ann Moore should

first be weighed, and then removed from her own bed to another, provided with a weighing machine for the occasion. On receiving intimation of this arrangement she manifested the utmost dissatisfaction, and for some time obstinately refused to be weighed; declaring, that they might bring the bed and place the machine under it, but if they did she would immediately break up the watch. Had it not been for a person to whose opinion she paid some deference she would probably never have submitted, well knowing how strongly her gradual loss of weight must argue against her. In order, however, to prepare the public mind for what she well knew would be the consequence, she observed that she might lose two or three pounds, for she had lost weight before; a circumstance which she could not know, as no such precaution had then been adopted. To throw as much difficulty as possible in the way, she declared that she would not be weighed alone, but together with the bed and bedding, probably under the idea that there would be room for charging the deficiency in part to them.

These preliminaries being adjusted, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. the Rev. Legh Richmond, and Dr. Garlike, the gentlemen appointed for the first watch, entered on their office at two o'clock in the afternoon of the 21st of April. The room was examined with the most scrupulous accuracy by the committee, to their entire satisfaction that no kind of food, either solid or liquid, was or could be secreted in any part of it. A new bedstead was provided, a new bed filled with chaff in their presence, and every article of the bedding searched with the utmost minuteness. The removal of the woman from one bed to the other was closely watched in every circumstance and particular by all the gentlemen, after which, at her own request, her person was examined, and every possible satisfaction afforded that no collusion could have taken place in any part of the transaction. Not a single article of any kind

remained unexplored, and when the business of search and removal was concluded, no doubt was left upon the mind of the parties present that she was entirely deprived of the possession or the means of access to any kind of food whatsoever. Across the room was placed a barrier, within which the watchers alone took their station to prevent all access, which could implicate Mrs. Moore in the smallest share of suspicion. The bed was placed upon a Merlin's weighing machine, constructed with peculiar accuracy.

The first two Attestations are as follow:

Wednesday, April 21, 1813,
Six o'clock in the Afternoon.

We, Sir Oswald Mosley, of Rolleston, Baronet; William Bennet Garlike, of Derby, doctor of physic; and Legh Richmond, clerk, rector of Turvey, in the county of Bedford; being the first persons appointed on the watch of Ann Moore, did, at twenty minutes past two this afternoon, proceed (in the presence of the Rev. George Watson Hutchinson, Messrs. Charles Bott, William Smith, George Cooper, and Joseph Bennett Hankin Bennett, all of Tutbury, and members of the committee), most minutely to search and examine the room which she occupies, and the contents thereof; and have fully ascertained that no food is secreted or concealed therein, nor are there any private means by which aliment could be conveyed. We have also witnessed her removal from the former bed to another purposely made, which, together with the bolster, were filled in our presence with chaff: we also witnessed a thorough examination of the pillows and bed furniture.

The whole of the preparation of the bed for receiving her took place in our presence, and not a single circumstance appeared to which we could attach the slightest suspicion. Immediately after which examination we commenced our

watch; and we do hereby certify and attest, that we have most diligently and attentively watched the said Ann Moore to this time, (six o'clock), and we are fully satisfied, and do declare, and will maintain, that she has not received any food whatever, liquid or solid, during our watch; and that the said watch has been conducted in the strictest conformity with the regulations prescribed.

As witness our hands,

Signed, OSWALD MOSLEY,
W. B. GARLIKE,
LEGH RICHMOND.

Witness J. B. H. BENNETT.

SECOND ATTESTATION.

Wednesday, April 21, 1813.

We, Elias Sanders, curate of Church Broughton, and John Webster, of Burton, surgeon, do hereby certify and attest, that, from six o'clock this evening to the present time, being four hours, we have most diligently and attentively watched Ann Moore during the said four hours (having first entered the room before the preceding watches withdrew); and we are fully satisfied, and do declare, and will maintain, that she has not received any food whatever, liquid or solid, in the course of that time, and that our said watch has been conducted in strict conformity with the regulations prescribed.

As witness our hands,

ELIAS SANDERS,
JOHN WEBSTER.

Signed in the presence of
CHARLES BOTT, and J. B. H. BENNETT.

The watch, relieved every four hours, was continued regularly up to the 27th of April, by Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. and John Lane, Esq. justices of the peace; the Rev.

Legh Richmond, rector of Turvey; Rev. J. Dewe, rector of Breadsall; Rev. G. W. Hutchinson, vicar of Tutbury; Rev. Thomas Best, curate of Uttoxeter; Rev. J. Peploe Mosley, rector of Rolleston; Rev. T. Fisher, curate of Barton; Rev. R. P. Buddicom, fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge; Rev. Fred. Anson, rector of Sudbury; Rev. Edward Cooper, rector of Yoxall; Rev. M. Witt, curate of Marston-upon-Dove; Rev. H. Williams, curate of All Saints, Derby; Rev. E. Sanders, curate of Church Broughton; Rev. H. Bennett, curate of Marchington; Francis Fox, M. D. Derby; Messrs. S. Davenport, John Webster, J. Wright, Jon. Gilbert, of Derby; John Webster, John Spencer, jun. B. Granger, J. Adams, of Burton; F. Goodall, J. Hawthorn, George Allsop, John Rice, of Uttoxeter; J. Allen, sen. J. Allen, jun. Tutbury; Gilbert Bridges, Narborough, near Leicester; S. Cotterill, Hinckley; W. Birch, E. F. Cleavin, of Barton; Thomas Kirkland, Ashby; G. Hutchinson, Ticknall; Benjamin Taberer, Repton, surgeons.

It was then publicly announced, that during the time Ann Moore had taken no food whatever. Towards the close of the week, however, it was evident to those who attended her that she was suffering severely from want, and the application of the machine shewed that she was rapidly losing weight. A fever, produced by abstinence, occasioned such excessive thirst that she desired to have cloths dipped in vinegar and water, with which she moistened her mouth and tongue. These cloths were, in general, wrung out before they were given to her, but Mr. Wright, surgeon of Derby, wishing to obtain ocular demonstration of her ability to swallow, handed her one without wringing: she eagerly applied it to her lips, and he plainly perceived the act of deglutition. Such was her gratitude for this trifling relief, that she promised Mr. Wright her body for dissection after her

death. At length on the ninth day she was so excessively reduced, that she insisted on the watchers quitting the room, declaring that she was very ill, and that her daughter must be sent for. Her voice was very feeble; the pulse was entirely gone at one wrist, and in the other it was intermittent, and beat 160 in a minute. It was the opinion of the medical attendants, Dr. Fox and Dr. Garlike, that she could not live two hours; the watch, therefore, broke up: her daughter was admitted, and gave her what she thought proper, after which the mother began to revive, and all apprehensions of danger were speedily removed. As a last resource she now desired to take a solemn oath, that for six years she had taken no food whatever, and this oath, though evidently false, was actually administered. On some minds this expedient might perhaps have produced the effect intended, but for the discovery of her linen, which she had concealed in her room, and the state of which as well as of the blanket underneath her bore unequivocal testimony of recent evacuations. At last, overwhelmed with confusion by the production of these vouchers, she was brought to make the following confession.

"I, Ann Moore, of Tutbury, humbly asking pardon of all persons whom I have attempted to deceive and impose upon, and above all with the most unfeigned sorrow and contrition, imploring the divine mercy and forgiveness of that God whom I have so greatly offended, do most solemnly declare, that I have occasionally taken sustenance for the last six years.

"Witness my hand, this fourth day of May, 1813.

"The × of ANN MOORE."

"The above declaration of Ann Moore was made before me, one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the county of Stafford.

"THOMAS LISTER."

"Witness to the above declaration and signature of my mother Ann Moore. "MARY MOORE."

After signing this declaration, as the delusion was now completely dispelled, she drank some milk in the presence of several witnesses without any difficulty; though she had so admirably counterfeited suffocation when a little water was put into her mouth by Dr. Fox, at the time when she seemed near dying, as to bring up a quantity of blood.

It cannot be doubted, that many of the neighbours of Ann Moore were more or less interested in supporting the imposture, and that the numerous visitors whom her story attracted to Tutbury furnished them with reasons sufficiently cogent to secure their good wishes for its continuance. No sooner did these good people find that they had nothing farther to expect from this source than they were ready to declare, that notwithstanding she pretends to have lost the use of the lower extremities, they have occasionally seen her walking in the streets by moon-light, and that on being taxed with it she persuaded them it was her apparition. There is every reason to believe that she will share the fate experienced by many other public characters in a higher sphere, who are admired, honoured, and idolized by the vulgar, whilst upborne by that bubble popularity, but when it bursts are suddenly plunged from their giddy elevation into the lowest depths of contempt, neglect, and oblivion.

There are not wanting, however, well authenticated instances of persons, who, without pretending like Ann Moore to any miraculous interference of Providence in their behalf, have subsisted for long periods of time upon very small quantities of food.

MARY THOMAS.

PENNANT, in his tour to Wales, by Snowden, states his curiosity was excited, when on a visit to Barmouth, to examine into the truth of a surprising relation of a woman in

the parish of Cylynin, who had fasted a most surprising length of time. I proceeded, says he, to a farm called Tydden Back, there I found Mary Thomas, the person represented to me; she was boarded here with great humanity and neatness. She appeared about the age of forty-seven, of a good countenance, very pale, thin, but not so much emaciated as might be expected; her eyes weak, her voice low, deprived of the use of her lower extremities, and quite bedridden; her pulse rather strong, her intellects clear and sensible.

On examining her, she informed me that at the age of seven, she had some eruption like the measles, and she became so sore, that she could not bear the least touch; but received much ease from the application of a sheep-skin fresh from the animal: that she was attacked always at spring and fall. About the age of twenty-seven she was attacked more violently, and for two years and a half was quite insensible, and took no nourishment, although her friends used to force open her mouth with a spoon to get some down; the moment when the spoon was taken away her teeth closed, and she did nothing but vomit blood.

She now came to herself, perfectly recollecting every one about her, but thought she had only slept for one night, and found herself hungry. Meat was brought her, but she could not eat it, and swallowed only about a spoonful of whey. From this time she continued seven years and a half without food or liquid, excepting sufficient to moisten her lips; at the end of this period she again fancied herself hungry, and desired an egg, of which she got down a portion equal in size to a nut-kernel. At this time she begged to receive the sacrament, which she did, by having a crumb of bread steeped in the wine. She afterwards took for her daily subsistence a bit of bread weighing about two pennyweights, and a wine glass of water, sometimes a spoonful of wine, but often for days together took neither. She slept very in-

differently; the ordinary functions of nature are very small and very rare. In the year 1780 she was still alive, and in the same state.

JANET MACLEOD.

THE same writer, in his tour in Scotland, gives the following account of Janet Macleod, daughter of Donald Macleod, farmer in Croig, in the parish of Kincardine, Ross-shire, a single woman, aged about thirty-five years. Sixteen years ago contracted a fever, after which she became blind. Her father carried her to several physicians and surgeons to cure her blindness. Their prescriptions proved of no effect. He carried her also to a lady skilled in physic in the neighbourhood, who, doubtful whether her blindness was occasioned by the weakness of her eye-lids or a defect in her eyes, found by the use of some medicines that the blindness was occasioned by a weakness in the eye-lids, which being strengthened she recovered her sight in some measure, and discharged as usual every kind of work about her father's house, but tied something round her forehead to keep up her eye-lids. She continued so for four or five years, in good health; she then contracted another lingering fever, of which she never recovered perfectly.

Some time after her fever her jaws fell, her eyes closed, and she lost her appetite. Her parents declare, that for the space of a year and three quarters, they could not say any meat or liquid went down her throat. Being interrogated on this point, they owned they very frequently put something into her mouth, but they concluded that nothing went down her throat, because she had no evacuation; and when they forced open her jaws at one time, and kept them open by putting in a stick between her teeth, and pulled forward her tongue, and forced something down her throat, she coughed and strained as if in danger to be choked. One circumstance, during the time she ate and drank nothing, is re-

markable, that her jaws were unlocked and she recovered her speech, and retained it several days without any apparent cause. She was quite sensible, repeated several questions of the shorter catechism, told her parents that it was to no purpose to put any thing into her mouth, for that nothing went down her throat, as also that sometimes she understood them when they spoke to her. By degrees her jaws thereafter fell, and she lost her speech.

Some time before I saw her she received some sustenance, whey, water-gruel, &c. but threw it up, at least for the most part, immediately. When they put the stick between her teeth, mentioned above, two or three of her teeth were broken. It was at this breach that they put in any thing into her mouth. I caused them to bring her out of bed, and give her something to drink. They gave her whey. Her neck was contracted, her chin fixed on her breast, nor could by any force be pulled back. She put her chin and mouth into the dish with the whey, and I perceived she sucked it at the aforementioned breach, as a child would suck the breast, and immediately threw it up again, as her parents told me she used to do, and she endeavoured with her hand to dry her chin. Her forehead was contracted and wrinkled; her cheeks full, red, and blooming. Her parents told me that she slept a great deal and soundly, perspired sometimes, and now and then emitted pretty large quantities of blood at her mouth.

For two years past they have been wont to carry her to the door once every day, and she shewed signs of uneasiness when they neglected it at the usual time. Last summer, after giving her to drink of the well of Strathconnen, called Brea-mar water, she crawled to the door on her hands and feet without any help. She is at present in a very languid way, and still throws up what she drinks.

The account written by Alexander Mackenzie, of New

Tabart, April 3, 1775, in the Philosophical Transactions, volume lxvii., gives an account of her early illness. He there states, that she totally refused food and drink at Whitsuntide, 1763, and in some parts differs but very little from the preceding account. He says, that on the third day, after the water was given her from that particular spring, she cried, Give me more water. These were the only words she spoke for almost a year, and muttered more, that her parents understood, for twelve or fourteen days, after which she spoke none, and rejected every thing till July, 1765, when one of her sisters thought, by some signs that she made, that she wanted her jaws opened; which her father, not without violence, accomplished by putting the handle of a horn spoon betwixt her teeth. She said then, intelligibly, give me drink, and drank with ease, and all at one draught, about a pint of water. Her father then asked her why she would not make some signs, although she could not speak, when she wanted to drink. She answered, why should she when she had no desire. The writer then continues:—About a twelvemonth ago, the thought of thrusting a little dough of oatmeal through the gap of the teeth, which she would retain a few seconds and then return, with something like a straining to vomit, without a particle going down: and now for four years she has subsisted without any sustenance, excepting the small draft of Brea-mar water, and the English pint of common water; and for the last three years she had no evacuation by stool or urine, except, that once or twice a week she passed a few drops of urine, as the parents express it, about as much as would wet the surface of a halfpenny; and small as it is it gives her some uneasiness. Nor have they, in all these three years, ever discovered the smallest wetting in her bed. She never attempts to turn herself, or make any motion with hand, head, or foot, but lies like a log of wood. Her pulse to day, which with some difficulty I felt, (her mother at the same time having raised and supported her in her bed,) is distinct and regular, slow, and to the extremest degree small. Her

countenance is clear and pretty fresh; her features not disfigured nor sunk; her chin feels natural both as to touch and warmth; and, to my astonishment, when I came to examine her body, for I expected to feel a skeleton, I found her breasts round and prominent, like those of a healthy young woman; her legs, arms, and thighs, not at all emaciated; the abdomen somewhat tense; her knees bent, and her hamstrings as tight as a bow-string; her heels almost close to the nates. When they struggle with her, to put a little water within her lips, they observe sometimes a dewy softness on her chin. She sleeps much, and very quiet; but when awake, keeps a constant wimpering, like a new-born weakly infant, and sometimes an effort to cough. At present no degree of strength can force open her jaws. I put the point of my little finger into the gap of her teeth, and found the tongue, as far as I could reach, soft and moist; as I did with my other fingers the mouth and cheeks, quite to the back teeth. She never can remain a moment on her back, but always falls on one side, or the other; and when her mother sat behind her while I was examining her body, her head hung down, with her chin close to her breast, nor could I with any force move it backwards; the anterior muscles of the neck being rigid, like a person in the emprosthotonus, and in this posture she constantly lies.

The above account was taken in writing this day by her bed side. I had along with me Mr. Robertson, eldest son to the minister of the parish, and David Ross, at the Craig of Strath, Carron, their neighbour, and one of the elders of the parish, who verified, from his own knowledge, all that is above related. The present situation and appearances of the patient were carefully examined the 21st of October, 1767, by Dr. Alexander Mackenzie, physician at New Tabart, who likewise, in the month of October, 1772, being informed that the patient was recovering, and ate and drank, visited her, and found her condition to be as follows:—

report, from our knowledge of the above men, and the circumstances of the case, that full faith and credit is to be given to every article of the above history.

WILLIAM SMITH,
JOHN BARCLAY, N.P.
HUGH ROSS,
ALEXANDER MACLEOD,
DONALD MACLEOD, Sh. Dep.
GEORGE MUNROE, J.P.
SIMON ROSS, J.P.
GEORGE SUTHERLAND, J.P.

JAMES SHARPE EGLAND,

THE ORIGINAL DEALER IN PUDDING, COMMONLY CALLED THE FLYING PIEMAN.

THE hero of this article has long been well known all over the metropolis from selling slices of pudding "all hot"—"red hot," &c. and occasionally cakes, and such like eatable wares. He is remarkable for his activity in disposing of his goods, never standing still a moment, but accosting every person who appears likely to be a customer with extraordinary ease and fluency. To whatever question a person may ask he not only has an answer ready, but will run on with a long tale in addition, so that it is impossible to propose a second enquiry. Away he then flies to a second, to whom he offers his goods "all hot," and thus proceeds with such rapidity, that you may find him almost at the same moment, in the Spa Fields and at Billingsgate, in Smithfield, Clare Market, Covent Garden, and Pall Mall; in a word, all over the town in a space of time incredibly short for one who gains a subsistence by seeking customers for his commodities.

taff, and therefore recommended her being totally confined to spinning wool; this she does with equal dexterity as she did flax.

The above was her situation in October, 1772, and within these eight days I have been told by a neighbour of her father's, that she still continues in the same way, without any addition to her support, and without any additional aliment.

At Croick, the 15th day of June, 1775.

To authenticate the history set forth in the preceding pages, Donald Macleod Esq. of Granics, sheriff depute of Ross-shire, George Munroe, Esq. of Cuteai, Simon Ross, Esq. of Gladfield, Captain George Sutherland, of Elphin, all justices of the peace; Messieures William Smith, preacher of the gospel, John Barclay, writer in Tain, Hugh Ross, student of divinity, and Alexander Macleod, did come to this place, accompanied by the above Dr. Alexander Mackenzie, physician at New Tabart, and after explaining the purport and meaning of the above history, to Donald Macleod, father to Janet Macleod, above mentioned, and to David Ross, elder, in the parish of Kincardine, who lives in the close neighbourhood of this place, they, to our full satisfaction, after a minute examination, authenticate all the facts set forth in the above account; and, for further satisfaction, we had Janet Macleod brought out before us, to the open air, when the Doctor discovered a very great improvement in her looks and health since the period of his having seen her last, as now she walked tolerably upright, with a little hold by the wall; and, notwithstanding her age, which upon enquiry we found to be exactly as set forth in the above account, her countenance and looks would have denoted her not to be above twenty years of age at most. At present the quantity of food she uses is not above what would be necessary for the sustenance of an infant two years of age. And we do

The neatness and cleanliness of this man's appearance are truly pleasing. In all weathers he may be seen abroad without coat or hat, his hair powdered, his shirt sleeves turned up, and a steel hanging from his apron string; he used to carry a tin made like a Dutch oven, in which he kept a fire continually burning; but latterly he carries a small tray. His pudding he never touches with his hands, but has a knife for the purpose of presenting it to purchasers. The quantity which he sells is so great, that he is obliged to replenish several times a day. The method in which he ensures a ready and regular supply is this. Having first made a considerable quantity his female partner and himself convey it to a certain distance and deposit their load at some public house or other, where she keeps it "all hot," while Egland runs about to sell. Having disposed of the first cargo he returns for more, and by these means he has it always fresh, and is never in want of goods.

In one of these daily excursions he met with an adventure which occasioned no small amusement, when the circumstances became the subject of investigation at Marlborough Street, on Monday, July 8, 1812. On this occasion he preferred a serious charge against a beggar, the president of a smoking club, in St. Giles's, and others, for stealing his mutton pies, cutting off his tail, and otherwise disfiguring his person. It appeared, in the evidence of Mr. Egland, that he was introduced with his pies, to an assemblage, chiefly composed of beggars, in St. Giles's, and the chair was filled by a beggar without hands, noted for chalking the pavement about the Admiralty. The president was smoking a pipe, as great as any city knight over a bason of turtle soup; but no sooner had the pieman entered, than the company crammed them down their throats, notwithstanding the cries of "*honor gentlemen*," from the assailed. Egland began to consult his safety by flight, but he was detained and called on for a song, and whilst chaunting the "Stormy Winds," a fellow cut off

his tail. The magistrates ordered bail to be put in, in default of satisfying the pieman, which was accordingly done.

Egland, like most men who have attained to eminence by their success in any particular avocation, has excited the envy and ambition of several imitators; but like the generality of copies, they are far inferior in spirit and animation to the original. One of these is a black who cries "all hot," &c. and turns himself about as nearly as he can after the manner of Egland; but he wants that command of language for which the latter is so highly distinguished, and has nothing to say for himself beyond a few silly, common-place expressions, in which no change of persons, places, or circumstances, can produce the slightest variation. Another, of a still humbler order frequents Whitechapel; and a third is to be found every evening about Holborn Bridge and its neighbourhood. There is a fourth who approaches the nearest of any to their general prototype, being about the size of Egland, whom he imitates as closely as possible in dress and manner, in order that he may be taken for the original pudding and pieman; going without hat, powdering his hair, turning up his sleeves, and copying our hero in all his other singularities. This man, who is always to be found about Billingsgate, London Bridge, and their vicinity, is lost, however, like the black, for want of a portion of Egland's wit and vivacity.

The history of every age and country furnishes us with abundance of examples of men of extraordinary genius or talents, whom fortune or circumstances would have doomed to a life of obscurity; but who, spurning the humble situations in which they were placed, have exalted themselves to the sphere for which nature designed him. Such a character is James Sharpe Egland. He was bred to the sedentary trade of a tailor, being a relation of Mr. Austerbury, who was in a very extensive line of business at the bottom of Friday Street, Cheapside, where he worked some years; but love, which has produced so many wonderful metamorphoses,

which has been known to transform blacksmiths into painters, which made Hercules exchange his club for the distaff, caused our hero to relinquish the needle for the patty-pan. He lodged in Turnmill Street, Clerkenwell, where his landlady, who was a widow, followed the occupation of making small cakes, pies, and other articles of a similar kind. The persuasive eloquence of the brisk young tailor, soon convinced this fair lady that man was not made to live alone, or woman either: in a word, she gave him her hand, and instructed him in her trade. His active genius, however, could not brook the tedious task of waiting behind the counter for customers; he therefore went abroad in quest of them, and has found this practice so profitable that he has continued it ever since.

Though the liveliness of Egland's disposition will not allow him to be seen with a sorrowful face, yet he has encountered a few unlucky chances in life. Soon after his removal with his family from Turnmill Street to Coppice Row, his matrimonial engagements were destined to experience a sudden dissolution. But, as domestic dissensions are not fit subjects for public curiosity, we shall merely state, that a separation took place; his wife took with her a daughter by her former husband, leaving him the two children who were the fruits of their union, and whom he supported in a very genteel manner. Of one of these children, to whom he was strongly attached, he has recently been deprived by a most distressing accident, and this misfortune he has taken much more to heart than the loss of his wife. Her place was not long vacant, for his busy friend, his tongue, soon persuaded a well-looking female to undertake the management of his domestic concerns.

During his residence in Coppice Row, about the year 1804, Egland became a member of the corps of Clerkenwell Volunteers, and was placed in the light company. He bears the character not only of being the cleanest man but the best

soldier in the regiment, and never neglects his duty, though he has since removed from the parish, and now resides in the vicinity of Drury Lane.

After the knowledge of Egland's active turn, which the reader has already acquired, he will not be surprised to learn that this man is one of the swiftest runners in England. A very short time since, while dealing out his "all hot," flying here, there, and every where, he was challenged to run a considerable distance for two guineas, by a person who is considered one of the first pedestrians of the present day. He accepted the challenge, and on starting, followed his competitor, and bobbing his elbow, cried, "Get on man, get on; I must leave you else." In this manner he urged forward his antagonist till he was almost exhausted, and then darting forward like an arrow, the Flying Pieman left the poor fellow to gaze after him in stupid amazement.

It is said, that for amusement, or the gratification of a whim, he will frequently walk fifty or a hundred miles out of London, and return in the same way. On these occasions he always contrives to take some companion out with him, but was never known to bring any of them back again; for so irresistibly are they allured forward by the humour and sprightliness of his conversation, that they never think of the distance till they find themselves completely knocked up.

Upon the whole, this man may be held forth as an example of what may be effected by industry and activity, especially in a large city like London. Those qualities, joined with a common share of prudence, cannot fail to ensure to every man comfort and respectability, if not competence and wealth, however lowly his sphere, and however unpromising his beginnings.

SWIFT JOURNEY FROM LONDON TO YORK.

THE following performance of swift travelling is copied verbatim from a scarce book, entitled, "The Abridgement of the English Chronicle," by Edmond Howes, imprinted at London, 1618, (15th James I.)

"*Master Lepton's swift Journey betweene London and Yorke.*

"In this moneth, John Lepton of Kepwick, in the county of Yorke, Esquire, a gentleman of an ancient family there, and of good reputation, his majesties servant, and one of the groomes of his most honourable privy chamber, performed so memorable a journey as I may not omit to record the same to future ages, the rather for that I did heare sundry gentlemen, who were good horsemen, and likewise many good physicions affirme it was impossible to be done without daunger of his life.

"He undertooke to ride five severall times betwixt London and Yorke in sixe dayes, to be taken in *one weeke*, between Monday morning and Saturday following: He began his journey upon Monday, being the 20th day of May, betwixt two and three of the clocke in the morning, forth of S. Martin's, neere Aldersgate, within the city of London, and came into Yorke the *same* day, betwixt the houres of five and six in the afternoone, where he rested that night; the nexte morning, being Tuesday, about three of the clocke, he took his journey forthe of Yorke, and came to his lodging in S. Martin's aforesaid, betwixt the hours of six and seven in the afternoon, where he rested that night: the next morning, being Wednesday, betwixt two and three of the clocke, he tooke his journey forthe of London, and came unto Yorke about seven of the clocke the same day, where he rested that night: the next morning, being Thursday, betwixt two and three of the clocke, he took his journey forthe of Yorke, and came to

London the same day, betwixt seven and eight of the clocke, where he rested that night: the next morning, being Friday, betwixt two and three of the clocke, he took his journey towards Yorke, and came thither the same day, betwixt the hours of seven and eight in the afternoon, so as he finished his appointed journey *(to the admiration of all men)* in *five dayes, according to his promise;* and upon Monday, the 27th of this moneth, he went from Yorke and came to the court at Greenwich, upon Tuesday the 28th, to his Majesty, in as fresh and cheerful a manner, as when he first began."

THE PONEY AND MAIL COACH RACE.

On Saturday evening, September 3, 1808, a number of persons assembled at Hyde Park Corner, to witness the setting out of a poney, the property of Mr. Wardell, which was matched, for a bet of five hundred guineas, to start with the Exeter mail, and to be in Exeter first, with or without a rider. The man who led the poney was at liberty to take a fresh post-horse as often as he pleased. Mr. Wardell went by the mail.

The poney and its conductor arrived at Salisbury at the same time with the mail coach; there they gave it a feed of ale and bread, and started again as the mail coach horses were put to; he appeared quite fresh. The poney kept the lead all the remainder of the way, and arrived at Exeter quite fresh, forty-five minutes before the mail. The odds were all the way in its favour. This little animal, which is only twelve hands high, lately carried a weighty rider seventy miles in one day. It is accustomed to drink ale and beer, and has frequently drank a pint of port at a time.

From London to Exeter is about one hundred and seventy-four miles; so that from eight on Saturday evening, until eleven on Sunday night, a duration of twenty-seven hours, it

must have travelled, including the time of refreshment, at the constant rate of about six miles and a half an hour. Several sporting gentlemen, who went as far as Salisbury, where the coach and the poney were even, have been seriously touched; they considered that as the poney had to go the whole of the journey, and the mail coach would have relays of horses, he must be worn out before the others reached the journey's end. But they did not take into their calculation the fact of the ground being nearly all level ground, whilst the remainder of the road is such a continual hilly country, that a set of horses, with a weight to drag, must inevitably be circumstanced materially to their disadvantage, when opposed to another carrying only his own weight. Several thousands were depending on this singular exploit.

EXTRAORDINARY SPEED.

April 15, 1761. Two horses started at Colchester, in order to make the best of their way to Whitechapel Church, for 50*l.* a side. They ran the first forty miles in two hours and ten minutes, and the last ten miles in fifty-two minutes; the winning horse only winning by two hundred yards.

Ann. Reg. 1761, p. 99.

A match was made against time some time since, by Lieutenant Webster, the nephew of the late celebrated Fletcher Read, Esq. which excited a good deal of speculation, and the result of which has struck the *cognoscenti* with astonishment. Mr. Webster undertook, for a wager of six hundred guineas, to ride a favorite horse, his property, from Ipswich to London, a distance of seventy miles, in the short space of

five hours. The judges of the powers of horses considered the wager as a certain loss, and consequently, the odds ran high against the performance.

On Monday morning, Sept. 7, at an early hour, Mr. Webster commenced his journey from Ipswich, and the sporting circles lined the road from the metropolis: anxiety never has been more strongly excited. The animal run the first twenty miles in *one hour* and *ten minutes*, when the rider halted for a few minutes and gave the horse a portion of wine and water. The animal had to perform fourteen miles an hour at starting, and it kept on at a running rate the whole of the distance. Whitechapel church was the extent of the journey, at which place the horse and its rider arrived in four hours and fifty minutes, having performed the journey in ten minutes less than the given time. Mr. W. rides about nine stone.

The wonderful equestrian performance of Mr. Webster has excited a good deal of rivalship in the sporting world. No less than three matches against time, of a nature similar to that performed by Mr. W.'s horse, Buzzard, have been made. A Mr. Hall has undertaken to ride a gelding from Hounslow to Newbury, and back to Reading, a distance of seventy-three miles, in five hours and a quarter, within a fortnight. Mr. Wells, a gentleman known on the turf, has made a bet of one hundred guineas, that he will ride a horse from Whitechapel to the thirty-sixth mile-stone on the Ipswich road, in two hours and twenty minutes. A match of this kind was performed on Wednesday, Sept. 9, by a mare, the property of a farmer at Heston, which was bought for 4l. a short time since. His mare performed twenty-six miles in one hour and forty minutes, from Hounslow to Two-mile-brook, near Maidenhead, and back to Hounslow Heath, for a wager of thirty guineas. The odds were two and three to one against Mr. Hall, and seven to four against Mr. Wells.

Weekly Messenger, Sept. 13, 1807.

BROAD SWORD EXERCISE WITH BOTH HANDS.

On Friday, November 18, 1803, Mr. Goldham, a gentleman of the London cavalry, to the astonishment of every one present, went through the Austrian broad-sword exercise, with two sabres, one in each hand, at the same time, the horse going at the rate of more than thirty miles an hour. Mr. G. afterwards touched the ground in the fourth division on each side with great ease; the same gentleman some time back rode his horse over a timber leap six-feet high, without a saddle; his adversary's horse was killed in the attempt. He offered to ride over the Thames near Greenwich, or, on two of his own horses, forty miles in two hours.

British Press, Nov. 22, 1803.

VENTRILOQUISM.

Last week, while the sexton of Tynemouth Church was digging a grave in North Shields Church Yard, he imagined he heard a feeble voice under his feet, pronounce the word "murder!" but looking down, and perceiving nothing, he plucked up his spirits and resumed his work. No sooner, however, did he begin to make use of his spade, than the same awful sound vibrated three times in his ears: the courage of the astonished Moses forsook him—the spade dropped from his grasp, and, with the agility of an harlequin, he skipped out of the grave, and fled from the church yard, to the no small amusement of those who were in the secret. A soldier practising ventriloquism, who was placed at a convenient distance, conveyed the sound.

Times, Oct. 29, 1808.

A BULLOCK FELLED BY A MAN'S FIST.

OCTOBER 9, 1792. One M'Gregor, a painter, in Kelso, undertook for a trifling wager to fell a bullock with his fist at three blows, which he performed at the second. What makes it more extraordinary, he is a very slender man, and not above five feet seven inches high.

Rivington's Ann. Reg. 1792, Part 2. p. 41.

CANINE FIDELITY.

AUGUST 18, 1765. One Carr, a waterman, having laid a wager, that he and his dog would leap from the centre arch of Westminster Bridge, and land at Lambeth, within a minute of each other; he jumped off first, and the dog immediately followed him; but the faithful animal not being in the secret, and fearing his master should be drowned, laid hold of him by the neck, and dragged him to the shore, to the no small diversion of the spectators.

Ann. Reg. 1765, p. 116.

CROSSING THE THAMES IN A BUTCHER'S TRAY.

JULY 5, 1766. At eight o'clock in the evening, a man who had laid a wager to cross the Thames in a butcher's tray, set out in the same from Somerset Stairs, and reached the Surrey shore with great ease, using nothing but his hands. He had on a cork jacket, in case of any accident. It was said 1400l. was depending on this affair; and upwards of seventy boats full of spectators were present.

Ann. Reg. 1766, p. 112.

SORTING EWES AND LAMBS.

THE following very singular wager was decided a few days ago: Mr. Reed, jun. of West Dean, near Chichester, engaged for a wager of 50*l.* to find out, from a flock of two hundred ewes, the lamb which belonged to each. The lambs were kept in a separate place from the ewes. Mr. Reed completely succeeded, to the satisfaction of all present, in finding the mother of each lamb. Other considerable bets were depending on the event of this curious undertaking.

Weekly Messenger, May 16, 1805.

A SINGULAR STORM.

MAY 1, 1811. A singular phenomenon occurred in a wood on the estate of T. Thornhill, Esq. at Calverley Lodge, in a storm. The wind, which was due south, came in so concentrated a form, that it did not extend more than fifteen yards in width, and in its course swept down, or tore up by the roots, ten stately oaks, one of them containing sixty-seven feet of wood, and which, in the opinion of Mr. Thornhill's woodman, was removed three feet from its situation, though its weight, with the earth attached to its roots, could not be less than seven tons.

Nat. Reg., *June* 30, 1811.

TORNADO.

MAY 12, 1811. At Kirk Ireton, &c. Derbyshire. The following are the particulars of a dreadful storm:

"About two o'clock dark clouds collected in the south, and an appearance of thunder; about three, thunder was heard at a distance, and upon its nearer approach about four

it was accompanied with a heavy fall of rain and hail-stones, of an immense size, some measuring six and seven inches in circumference; this was succeeded by a tornado, apparently proceeding from the junction of two currents of clouds, one from the south-east, the other from the south-west, which coming in contact a little to the southward of Kirk Ireton, assumed the form of one large and circular cloud, which immediately began to whirl round with incredible swiftness, and with a tremendous roaring noise, resembling that of a waterfall. The lower part of this cloud then became elongated, and retaining the same whirling motion, darted down continually upon the earth with great violence, the destructive effects of which were soon visible; for in the space of two minutes the whole village of Kirk Ireton presented a scene of complete ruin; the street was filled with thatch, tiles, slates, and fragments of timber; most of the houses, barns, and out-buildings were unroofed, and many totally thrown down; windows burst in, or most of the glass broken; corn and hay stacks were carried up and dispersed; the lead, which covered the centre part of the church, was carried into an adjoining field, and one piece, weighing half a ton, was at least seventy yards distant; the lead upon the side aisle was thrown against the wall of the centre part, and turned over the parapet.

Nat. Reg. June 16, 1811.

ACCOUNT OF THE INGENIOUS PERFORMANCES OF MISS HAWTIN,

WHO WAS BORN WITHOUT ARMS; WITH NOTICES RESPECTING SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS WITH THE LIKE DEFICIENCY.

It is well observed by Wanley, that "there is no stronger argument of the bounty of Providence, than that power

which God has given to nature, of supplying her own defects and atoning for the privation of some members or perfections, by bestowing on others a superior degree of activity, force, and capacity. We find blindness compensated by additional delicacy in the senses of hearing and feeling; deafness supplied by accuracy of sight; and the loss, or deformity, of some limbs made up by the strength and agility of others: so, if nature chance to fail in her good intentions, she makes after-provisions to supply her former defects; or else prepares so fair a recompence in some other things, that we often see with admiration, that even her maimed productions have as little cause to complain of her, as those upon whom she hath seemed more studiously to confer her favors."

Of these truths Miss Hawtin afforded a striking illustration. She was a native of Coventry, born without arms, and remarkable for the dexterity with which her feet performed all the offices of hands. With her toes she would cut out watch-papers, with such ingenuity and dispatch as to astonish every beholder; and numbers of these papers are yet kept as great curiosities by many who visited her. She could likewise use her needle and her pen with great facility. These extraordinary talents she exhibited to the great gratification of the public, in almost every town of England, till shortly before her death.

Several instances of this kind are quoted by Wanley, from various authors. Camerarius, a learned German writer of the sixteenth century, and professor at Nuremberg, relates, that at Bamberg, he saw a man named Thomas Schiveiker, aged thirty-one years, descended from a good family, and born without arms, who could perform with his feet all that other persons can do with their hands. Having seated himself on a place of equal height with the table, on which the meat was placed, he took up the knife with his feet, and began to cut his victuals, which, as well as the cup containing drink, he carried to his mouth with the greatest ease. After

dinner he wrote copies in Latin and German, so fair and straight, that each of the company desired to have some of them to keep, as particular curiosities. At their request he made pens very good to write with, which he also distributed among them. While thus employed, Camerarius observed his feet, and saw that they were long and well adapted to lay hold of things. This sight was on another occasion exhibited for the gratification of the Emperor Maximilian II., who, passing through the town, desired to see the man; and having witnessed this strange recompence of nature, dismissed him with a princely gratuity.

The same writer relates, that another man, who was born with the same deficiency, and travelled about in Germany, could wield a sword and flourish it about his head, and likewise throw javelins with such certainty, that he seldom failed to hit the mark. All other duties of the hands he performed with his feet; but employed them to such bad purpose, that he was at last broken upon the wheel for various robberies and murders which he had committed.

I remember, says Platerus, to have seen at Basil a woman spinning with her feet, sweeping the house and performing all the duties of a good housewife. I have also seen a man, who, with head and shoulders, would take hold of things and handle them after various manners. I have seen him with weapons and instruments held in that fashion, cleave, cut off, dig, and strike with wonderful force; and yet both he and the woman before mentioned were without arms.

The following case is recorded by Bartholinus:—Magdalen Rodolpha Thuinby, a native of Sweden, aged forty-two, and married to a German soldier, was born without arms. She was lately at Copenhagen; and that there might be no suspicion of fraud, by her consent, I saw that she had nothing but shoulders, yet she performs all offices with her feet, with such dexterity and readiness, that she is deservedly the wonder of the spectators, and seems to feel no want of

hands. With her feet she spins and threads her needle; she weaves; she charges and discharges a gun; with scissars and a knife she cuts papers into different artificial figures; plays at draughts and dice; drinks; and dresses her infant. She can raise her feet to her head, and carry her child to the breast as if she did it with her hands. She feeds both herself and her child, and combs her hair. In short, she does without trouble, all that is sufficient for her own necessity, and to gratify the curiosity of others.

Scaliger speaks of a man whom he saw in Germany, and who, according to his own account, was born at Naples. Though he had no arms, he could toss a pike with his right foot, mend clothes, write, help himself to victuals and drink, and thread a needle. He could, with a hammer, drive a nail up to the head in a piece of wood, and immediately pull it out again with pincers.

Pictorius Villinganus testifies, that he saw a Spaniard born without arms, yet with his feet he could spin, and use the needle with an address equal to that of most women. He was likewise so dexterous in the management of arms, that few soldiers were able to vie with him in agility. In the use of the bow he was remarkably skilful, and seldom missed his mark; and with an axe would give so strong a blow as to cut asunder a thick piece of wood at one stroke.

The fair sex has long been proverbial for the dexterous use of the tongue; but we much doubt whether another instance can be produced of even a female applying that member to such extraordinary purposes as the English woman mentioned by Tulpius. She was born with her arms and legs distorted in such a strange and unusual manner, that to all who saw her she seemed absolutely incapable of performing any action whatever. Nature, however, had conferred on her so wonderful a dexterity, that with her tongue she could spin, and thread a needle of the smallest size with great expedition. With the flexure of her tongue only she could readily tie

what is called the weaver's knot; and with the same tongue she would write, and that in a fair character. Tulpius had the name of his son Peter written by her, which he preserved as a curiosity.

Keckerman speaks of a scholar who had but one little finger on each hand; and his feet were triangular, without any toes; yet he had more force in that one finger than others had in five. He wrote with great neatness and expedition; and stood so firmly, that he would seldom slip, even in the most slippery places.

According to the parish register of Greenwich, Francis North, son of Samuel North, born without arms, his hands growing out of his shoulders, was baptized there July 4, 1619.

Stow gives an account of a Dutchman, born without arms, who, in 1581 exhibited feats of activity in London, &c.

Annals, 4to, p. 1168.

John Simons, a native of Berkshire, born without arms or hands, could write with his mouth, thread a needle, tie a knot, shuffle, cut, and deal a pack of cards, &c. He was shewn to the public in 1653.

Bulmer's Artificial Changeling, p. 302.

John Sear, a Spaniard, born without arms, was shewn to the public in London, in the reign of King William, who was very clever in writing, drawing, playing on instruments, &c.

Thomas Pennington, a native of Liverpool, born without arms or legs, exhibited many wonderful performances, similar to those of Sear, in 1744, and several years afterwards.

William Kingston, a farmer of Ditcheat, Somersetshire, born without arms, was capable of very surprising performances, according to the representation of him by Mr. J. Walton, in a letter addressed to the Rev. Mr. Wesley, and dated Bristol, October 14, 1788. "In order," says he, "to give the public a satisfactory account of William Kingston,

I went to Ditcheat last Monday, and the next morning got him to breakfast with me at Mr. Goodfellow's, and had ocular proofs of his dexterity. He highly entertained us at breakfast, by putting his half-naked foot upon the table as he sat, and carrying his tea and toast between his great and second toe to his mouth, with as much facility as if his foot had been a hand, and his toes fingers. I put half a sheet of paper upon the floor, with a pen and inkhorn. He threw off his shoes as he sat, took the inkhorn in the toes of his left foot, and held the pen in those of his right. He then wrote three lines as well as most ordinary writers, and as swiftly. He writes out all his own bills and other accounts. He then shewed me how he shaves himself with a razor in his toes, and he can comb his own hair. He can dress and undress himself, except buttoning his clothes. He feeds himself, and can bring both his meat and his broth to his mouth, by holding the fork or spoon in his toes. He cleans his own shoes, can clean the knives, light a fire, and do almost every other domestic business as well as another man. He can make hen-coops. He is a farmer by occupation. He can milk his own cows with his toes, cut his own hay, bind it up in bundles, and carry it about the field for his cattle. Last winter he had eight heifers constantly to fodder; and last summer made all his own hay-ricks. He can do all the business of the hay field except mowing, as fast and as well, with only his feet, as others can with rakes and forks. He goes to the field and catches his horse; he saddles and bridles him with his feet and toes. If he has a sheep among his flock that ails any thing, he can separate it from the rest, drive it into a corner, and catch it when nobody else can: he then examines it, and applies a remedy. He is so strong in his teeth, that with them he can lift ten pecks of beans. He can throw a great sledge-hammer as far with his feet as other men can with their hands: in a word, he can do nearly as much without as others can with their arms.

"He began the world with a hen and chicken, with the profit of which he purchased an ewe. The sale of this procured him a ragged colt (as he expressed it), and then a better; after this he raised a better and a few sheep, and now occupies a small farm."

For accounts of some other individuals, remarkable for the same kind of deficiencies and talents as those enumerated in this article, see Vol. II. of this work, p. 1, and Vol. III. p. 89.

NARRATIVE OF THE SHIPWRECK AND EXTRAORDINARY DISTRESSES OF THE CREW OF THE ST. LAWRENCE BRIGANTINE, ON THE ISLAND OF CAPE BRETON, IN A VOYAGE FROM QUEBEC, 1780. BY S. W. PRENTIES, ENSIGN OF THE 84TH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

In a preceding volume of this miscellany (Vol. II. p. 96.) has been given an authentic account of the adventures of Alexander Selkirk, which furnished the materials, or at least suggested the idea, of one of the most engaging books in our language. The misfortunes of Ensign Prenties and his companions are equally calculated to excite the most lively interest. In one of the most respectable of our critical journals (see Monthly Review for August, 1782), the narrative of that gentleman is thus characterized:

"The resources to avoid cold and sustain life amidst this scene of wretchedness almost realize the fictions of Defoe in his Robinson Crusoe, and probably exceed the contrivances of Alexander Selkirk, the genuine hero of that admired story. The present narrative is very interesting. It is related with moderation and good sense. The author hath given us a striking example of unshaken fortitude, and at the same time hath displayed a fertility of invention

more particularly conspicuous in the most desperate situations."

On the 17th November, 1780, says Mr. Prenties, I embarked on board the St. Lawrence brigantine, then lying in the basin of Quebec, and bound to New York, being charged with dispatches from General Haldimand, commander-in-chief in that province, to Sir Henry Clinton. The same day we weighed anchor, and dropped down to Patrick's Hole in the island of Orleans, in company with a schooner bound to the same port, on board of which was Ensign Drummond of the 44th regiment, with duplicates of General Haldimand's dispatches. In this place we were detained six days by a contrary wind.

On the 24th we got under way, and proceeded down the river St. Lawrence as far as the Brandy Pots, about forty leagues from Quebec. At this place the wind veered about to the north-east, which obliged us again to anchor. The weather was intensely cold, and the vessel being leaky made so much water as to render it necessary to keep one pump continually going. A change of wind soon after enabled us to proceed on our voyage, and to make the island of Anticosti at the mouth of the river St. Lawrence; when the wind coming round again to the eastward we were obliged to beat off and on between this island and Cape Roziere for four days; our vessel at the same time increasing her leaks so, that we were under the necessity of keeping both pumps constantly at work. Being now in a higher latitude, the severity of the cold had increased in proportion, and the ice began to form so fast about the ship as to alarm us exceedingly, lest we should be entirely surrounded by it. To the task of cutting and breaking it away, with that of keeping the pumps at work, the crew were scarcely equal, only nineteen persons being on board, of whom six were passengers, and the remainder very indifferent seamen. As for the mas-

ter, instead of attending to his duty, he remained continually in a state of intoxication in his cabin.

On the 29th the wind came round to the north-west, and we proceeded down the Gulf of St. Lawrence with two feet water in the ship's hold. The wind kept gradually increasing till 1st December, when it blew a perfect gale from the north-west quarter; and the ship's crew being now almost overcome with cold and fatigue, seeing no prospect of gaining upon the leak, the water having already increased to four feet in the hold, nor a possibility of making any port, came to the resolution of working no longer at the pumps. However, by the force of persuasion and promises, together with the timely distribution of a pint of wine per man, which I had fortunately brought on board, they were diverted from this desperate resolution, observing, however, that whether the vessel filled or not was a matter of no consequence. The delay thus occasioned had increased the depth of water another foot; but the men being encouraged by the wine, which was served to them every half hour, succeeded so far as to reduce the water in the space of two hours to less than three feet. The captain still remained in his cabin.

During the 2d and 3d of December the gale seemed to increase, and the ice formed so thick on the ship's sides as very much to impede her way through the water, the leak continuing to gain ground. The schooner that was in company was in as leaky a condition as our own vessel, having struck upon some rocks at the island of Coudres. A heavy snow now beginning to fall it was with the utmost difficulty we could get sight of each other, and in order not to part company fired a gun every half hour. The schooner at length made no answer to our guns, whence we concluded she had foundered, nor were we wrong in our supposition. There were sixteen persons on board, every one of whom perished.

On the following day the gale increased prodigiously. The men being excessively fatigued, the water had risen to its usual quantity of between four and five feet. The mate judged from the distance we had run, that we could not now be far from the Magdalen islands, which lie about midway in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This conjecture was but too well-founded; for in less than two hours we heard the sea breaking upon the rocks, and soon after discovered the principal island called the Deadman, close under our lee, the point of which we with the greatest difficulty weathered. Having happily cleared the main island, we were still far from thinking ourselves secure; for being unable, on account of the heavy fall of snow, to see many yards ahead of the vessel, and being in the midst of the small islands, there appeared very little probability that we should pass clear of them all in the same manner. Not being able to distinguish any one in time to avoid it, we were obliged to leave the vessel to the direction of Providence, and fortunately ran through them all without damage.

During the night, the gale continuing and the sea running very high, we were apprehensive of being pooped, which, in fact, happened; for about five in the morning of the 5th a large wave broke on the ship's quarter, stove in our dead lights, filled the cabin, and washed the master out of bed, where he had remained ever since the commencement of the gale. By this accident we soon discovered, from the increase of the leaks, that the stern-post had been started by the impulse of the sea. Having nothing in the after-hold, no resource was left but that of attempting to stop the leaks with beef: but this expedient proved ineffectual, and the water gained on us faster than ever. The sailors, finding all their endeavours fruitless, abandoned themselves to despair, and again refused to work at the pumps any longer. They had not, however, long remained inactive, before we persuaded them to make another effort to clear the vessel, when to our

great surprize and consternation we found the pumps so hard frozen that it was impossible to move them.

All endeavours to keep the ship clear were now ineffectual, so that in a very short time she filled to the water's edge. Notwithstanding, when the vessel was quite full, we observed that she was very little deeper in the water than before; and then recollecting that we had a quantity of lumber on board, we immediately accounted for the phenomenon of her not sinking beyond a certain depth in the water, and began to recal hopes of saving our lives at least, if we could but prevent her from oversetting till we could make the island of St. John, or some other island in the Gulf. Having no guns and not much lumber on the deck to make the ship top-heavy, we contrived to keep her from oversetting by steering directly before the wind. The cabin being raised above the level of the main-deck was tolerably clear of water, and afforded us some little shelter from the severity of the weather. Thither we retired, leaving only one man upon deck to govern the helm, who was fastened by a rope to prevent his being carried away by the waves, which at times made a free passage over us.

The gale still continued without remission, the snow falling so thick at the same time as to prevent our seeing to the mast-head. The captain imagined that we must be near the island of St. John, which lies between the Magdalen islands and the Gut of Canso. This gave us hopes of saving our lives, in case we could run ashore on some sandy part of it, till they were dashed by the further information we had from the captain, that the north-east side of the island was nothing but a continued reef of rocks from one end to the other, and that there was but one harbour where ships could put in, which he recollected was on the opposite side of the island. In a few hours after, we observed the waves grow shorter and break higher, which is always found to be the case on approaching the shore; and likewise a number of

gulls and ducks flying about, a further sign that we could not be far distant from it.

The captain proposed to bring the ship-to, in order to keep her off the land, which I opposed, as well as the mate, urging the probability that we should overset her in the attempt. Our opinion, however, was rejected; and an attempt was made to brace about the fore-yard, but it was found impracticable, the ropes and blocks being covered with ice. We were therefore obliged to let it remain as before, and the water having suddenly changed its colour, we expected the ship to strike every instant.

Small as our expectations were of saving our lives, I thought it incumbent on me to take every precaution to save the dispatches I was charged with, and therefore ordered my servant to open my trunks and collect all the letters they contained, which I put into a handkerchief and fastened about my waist. He at the same time offered me the money he found in them to the amount of one hundred and eighty guineas, which I desired him to dispose of as he thought proper, regarding it in the present emergency rather as an incumbrance than a matter worthy of preservation. My servant, however, thought otherwise, and took care to secure the cash.

The weather continued thick as usual, till about one o'clock, when suddenly clearing up we discovered the land at about three leagues distance. This sight gave us no small satisfaction, taking it at first to be the island of St. John's; but on a nearer view we found, from the plans which we had on board, that it had not the least resemblance to that island, there being no such mountains and precipices laid down as we discovered. On drawing nearer we observed the sea break high, and have a very dismal appearance about three miles from the land. As it was necessary for us to pass through those breakers before we could gain the shore, we expected that our fate would be there deter-

mined; but contrary to our expectations there was a considerable depth of water, so that we went over the reef without touching, though not without shipping many heavy seas. The land now began to have a dreadful appearance, seeming at the distance we were off, to be high and rocky; but on approaching within a mile of it we had the pleasure of descrying a fine sandy beach and a bold shore. The sea ran high, but not to such a degree as on the reef we had already passed. As we advanced, the water continued to have a depth beyond our most sanguine wishes, so as to allow us to come within fifty or sixty yards of the beach before we struck. Now was the time for every man's apprehensions to be on the rack, as we might expect that, on touching the shore, the ship would go to pieces. At length she grounded with a violent concussion. On the first stroke the main-mast went out of the step, and on the second the fore-mast; but neither of them fell over the side, the deal boards in the hold being stowed so close together that the masts had no room to play below; at the same time the rudder was unshipped with such violence as to be near killing one of the sailors.

As soon as the ship had grounded the sea began to beat over her in every part, each wave lifting her four or five feet nearer to the shore. In a short space of time the stern was beat in by the sea, and then, having no shelter in the cabin, we were obliged to go upon deck and hang by the shrouds, lest we should be washed overboard. In this situation we remained till the vessel was beaten so high by the waves, that we could venture to walk upon deck. We then perceived that the ship's keel was broken, which we imagined would occasion her to go to pieces; this however did not happen for the present, which I can only attribute to the boards in the hold being so interwoven with each other, and frozen together by the ice, as to give a degree of solidity to the vessel. Having cleared the boat of ice and

prepared her for launching, I ordered some liquor to be distributed to those who were yet sober, and then asked if any were willing to embark with me in the boat and make the attempt to gain the shore. The sea running so high that it appeared scarcely possible for the boat to live in it for a minute, very few were willing to make an experiment so full of risk; so that all who offered themselves were the mate and two sailors, together with my servant, and a boy who was a passenger on board. At length we got the boat into the water, and having thrown into it an axe and a saw I leaped in, followed by my servant and the mate. The boy followed us, but not springing far enough fell into the water; this accident was in the end of fatal consequence to the unfortunate youth. The two sailors next leaped into the boat, and all the others now seemed ready to follow the example, when I found it necessary to shove her off from the ship's side, lest, being very small, she should sink by so many persons crowding in together. The ship was lying about forty yards from the shore, but before we got half way to it we were overtaken by a wave which almost filled the boat, and the next drove us on the dry sand. What most affected us now was the distress of our companions whom we had left on board, whose lamentations and cries for help we could hear very distinctly. But it was impossible for us to afford them any assistance: our boat being beat high upon the sand could now be of no use either to us or to them.

The night was approaching, and the gale continuing as severe as ever, we were obliged to wade with extreme difficulty up to our waists in snow, to the shelter of a thick wood about two hundred and fifty yards from the beach. This afforded some relief from the piercing north-west wind; yet a fire was still wanting to warm our frozen limbs, and we had not wherewithal to kindle one. We had indeed taken the precaution to put a tinder-box in the boat, but the water had rendered it totally useless. Being better acquainted

with the nature of cold climates than any of my companions, I recommended it to them to move about for the purpose of keeping the blood in motion by exercise. My advice was strictly adhered to for about half an hour, when the young passenger already mentioned, being overcome by the severity of the weather, threw himself down in order to sleep; I used my utmost endeavours to rouse him, but to no purpose. After walking about for half an hour longer, during which I felt such a strong desire to sleep, that I should have lain down myself had I not been aware of the fatal consequences attending it; I went to the place where the boy lay, and putting my hand on his face and finding it quite cold, I observed to the mate, who was close by, that I believed he was dead. The youth immediately answered that he was not yet dead, but would be so very shortly; and requested I would write to his father at New York, and inform him of the circumstances of his son's misfortune. In about ten minutes we found that he had expired, and as I imagined without any pain whatever.

The death of the boy could not deter the rest of my fellow-sufferers from giving way to this drowsy sensation; and three of them lay down in spite of my repeated exhortations to the contrary. Finding it impossible to keep them on their legs, I broke a branch, and desiring the mate to do the same, our employment during the remainder of the night was to prevent them from sleeping, by beating them continually with the branches. The day-light at length appeared, and I soon found that the legs of my companions were frozen at least half way up. They rubbed them with snow for a considerable time, but to little purpose, for it was impossible to restore them to their feeling.

I then went down to the beach with the mate to see if we could discover any traces of the ship, and to our great surprize and satisfaction found that she had not yet gone to pieces, though the wind continued with unabated severity.

My first study was how to get our companions on shore. It was high flood when we arrived on the beach, we were therefore obliged to wait till the tide was out, when, the vessel having beaten much nearer the shore, we advised the people on board to fasten a rope to the jib-boom, by which they might swing themselves one by one towards the shore. They accordingly adopted this expedient, and by watching the motion of the sea, and seizing the opportunity of swinging themselves, as the waves retired, they all got safe on the land except a carpenter, who was a passenger in the vessel.

The captain had, fortunately, before he left the ship, put some materials for striking a light in his pocket; we therefore went to work in cutting and collecting wood, of which we made a fire with all possible expedition. But this gratification was, to several of my companions, followed by the most excruciating pain, as soon as their frozen parts began to thaw.

When we came to examine into our numbers I observed that Captain Green, a passenger, was missing, and was informed that he had fallen asleep on board the vessel, and had been frozen to death. The following night we passed a little better than the former; yet, notwithstanding we had a good fire, we found extreme inconvenience from the total want of covering as well as from hunger, a new misery with which we had hitherto been unacquainted. The next day at low water we found means, with much difficulty, to extricate the carpenter from the ship. We still remained without any kind of provisions, and began to be reduced in strength for want of nourishment.

The 7th and 8th the gale continued as boisterous as ever; and in the night between the 8th and 9th of December, the ship went to pieces from the stern to the main-mast, from the extreme violence with which the sea broke against her. By this part of her going to pieces we obtained some provisions,

which were washed on shore, viz. some pieces of salt beef, likewise some fresh meat that hung over the stern, and a quantity of onions which the captain had on board for sale. This relief was very seasonable, it being now the fourth day since we had eaten any kind of provision whatever. Having no utensils we dressed our meat in the best manner we could, and made what we thought a most delicious repast. The sense of hunger being assuaged we fell to work to collect all the provisions we could find scattered upon the beach. Our next care was to get ourselves under cover, and to form some kind of shelter from the piercing blast. This task was not an easy one, so many of our company being unable to move, and our number being reduced to seventeen, as already mentioned.

A quantity of deals had floated on shore from the wreck; of these we carried about two hundred and fifty into the wood, and by ten at night completed a kind of house about twenty feet long and ten wide, which was constructed in the following manner:—We cut two poles of the above-mentioned length, and having no nails tied them at a proper height on the outside of two trees, at the distance of twenty feet from each other. The interval between the poles, which was equal to the breadth of the trees, served for the smoke of our fire to go through; the fire itself being laid in an oblong position, extending itself nearly the whole length of the house. Against these cross poles we placed boards with a slope of about sixty degrees towards the ground, which constituted the two principal sides. The two other sides were composed of boards placed perpendicularly, the trunks of the trees being taken in and forming part of each side. On one of these sides, which looked towards the south-east, we left a vacancy for the entrance.

On examining the quantity of provisions we had collected, we had the satisfaction to find that we had in store between two and three hundred pounds of salt beef, and a consider-

able stock of onions; as to bread we had none, for when the vessel went to pieces the casks were stove and the bread lost. Economy and good management were now highly necessary to make our little stock last as long as possible; and it was determined that each man, whether sick or well, should be confined to a quarter of a pound of beef and four onions per day, as long as the latter should last. This wretched allowance was the utmost we thought it prudent to afford ourselves, lest we should be in an uninhabited country; for as yet we were rather uncertain on what coast we were cast away, though afterwards, on comparing circumstances, we concluded it must be on the island of Cape Breton.

On the 11th of December, being the sixth day after we landed, the gale abated, and gave us an opportunity to launch the boat and get on board what remained of the vessel. Three of us accordingly embarked, having with much labour launched the boat and cleared her of the sand and ice. As soon as we got on board the wreck, we went to work at opening the hatches, and having but one axe and the cables being frozen over them in a solid lump of ice, it took the whole day to accomplish it. The next day we went again on board, and cut up part of the deck, in order to get out two casks of onions, with a small barrel of beef, and three barrels of apples, shipped by a Jewish merchant of Quebec. We likewise found a quarter cask of potatoes, a bottle of oil, which proved very serviceable to the mens' sores, another axe, a large iron pot, two camp-kettles, and about twelve pounds of tallow candles. With much difficulty we got this farther supply on shore.

On the 18th we stowed away our provisions in a corner of the hut, when, on opening the apple casks, we found their contents, to our great surprise and regret, converted into bottles of Canadian balsam.

The considerable supply we got from on board the wreck enabled us the next day to add four onions to our daily allowance. We went on board once more on the 14th, and cut as much of the sails as possible from the bowsprit, with part of which we covered our hut, and made it tolerably warm and comfortable, notwithstanding the severity of the weather. By this time the sores of the men who had been frost-bitten began to mortify, and their toes, fingers, and other parts of the limbs affected to rot off, their anguish being at the same time almost intolerable. The carpenter, who came on shore after the others, had lost the greatest part of his feet, and on the 14th at night became delirious, in which unhappy state he continued till death released him the following day from his miserable existence. Three days after, our second mate died in the same manner. Indeed had not some paid the debt of nature we should, in the end, have been reduced to the shocking necessity of killing and devouring one another. Several, however, who had been but slightly frozen, recovered in a short time with the loss of a few toes and fingers, no one having entirely escaped but myself.

On the 20th another sailor died. Our number was now reduced to fourteen persons, yet we did not think it prudent to increase the allowance of provisions, but still kept it at the rate originally fixed on, of a quarter of a pound of beef *per diem*.

About a fortnight after we had fixed ourselves in the hut the mate and I took an opportunity of walking ten or twelve miles up a river upon the ice, where we observed many tracks of moose-deer and other animals, some of which we might have killed had we been provided with ammunition. In our progress we discovered several trees cut on one side, apparently by an axe, which induced us to think that there might be Indians near at hand. On going farther we per-

ceived by a wigwam which remained, that some had been there lately. We likewise found the skin of a moose-deer hanging across a pole. It gave us much satisfaction to find that we were in a place where inhabitants had recently been, as it was probable they might return. In case this should happen, I cut a long pole and stuck it in the ice upon the river; then with my knife, which was the only one among us, I cut a piece of bark from a birch-tree, and forming it into the shape of a hand pointing towards our hut, fixed it on the top of the pole, and took away the deer-skin, in order that they might perceive that some persons had been on the spot since they left it, and the route which they had taken on their return. We then pursued the way back to our habitation.

Twenty days having elapsed since our shipwreck, and our provisions being much reduced, I began to entertain a suspicion that there was some foul play during my absence, at different times, from the hut in search of inhabitants. I therefore determined if possible to find out the truth, and by keeping a constant watch at night I at length discovered that the depredators were the captain and two sailors, who had consumed no less than seventy pounds in so short a space of time. To prevent such practices in future, the mate and I never went out together, one of us constantly remaining in the hut.

We continued in a state of suspense from our last discovery for some days, when giving up all hopes of seeing any Indians in this place, having provisions for only six weeks longer, and a few of our men being recovered, I proposed leaving our habitation with as many as could work in the boat in search of inhabitants. When we came, however, to put the proposal in execution a new difficulty started itself; this was, how to repair the boat, which had been beaten in such a manner by the sea upon the beach that every seam was open. We first attempted to stop them with dry oakum

but soon found that it would not answer the intended purpose; and having saved no pitch from on board the wreck, we began to despair of the possibility of repairing them. I at length thought of making a kind of succedaneum for pitch of the Canadian balsam which had been shipped for apples. We accordingly went to work to make the experiment, and boiled a quantity of the balsam in the iron kettle which we had saved, and by frequently taking it off the fire to cool we soon brought it to a proper consistence. A sufficient quantity of it being prepared we turned up the boat, and having cleaned her bottom gave her a coat of the balsam, which effectually stopped up all crevices for the present. This done, we got a small sail rigged to a mast, which shipped and unshipped occasionally, and then pitched upon the persons who were to go with me in the boat.

By the 1st of January we got our boat in tolerable condition, and likewise our mast and sail rigged. Our agreement was to take six in the boat, namely, the captain and mate, two sailors, myself and servant, none of the rest being sufficiently recovered to accompany us. Our shoes being all nearly worn out, my employment during the whole of the next day was to make a kind of mocassins or Indian shoes of canvas. My needle was nothing more than the handle of a pewter spoon, and the same canvas supplied me with thread. As soon as I had made two pair for each man in our party we divided the provisions that remained into fourteen equal parts, which amounted only to a quarter of a pound of beef per day for six weeks, those who were to stay behind sharing as much as we who were to go in the boat.

In the afternoon of the 4th the wind moderating, we got our provisions and whatever little matters might be of service to us into the boat, and set off on our expedition. Having got about eight miles from the place of our shipwreck, the wind began to increase and blow very hard at south-east, which was immediately off the shore. Neither

our boat nor oars were of the best, and we were on the point of being blown out to sea, but by dint of rowing we made shift to get into a deep bay about a mile ahead, where we thought we might pass the night in safety. Having got every thing on shore we hauled our boat up as high as our strength would permit, and set to work to light our fire, and cut our wood for the night. We likewise cut some pine branches, the smaller of which served us to lie on, and the larger in the form of a wigwam to shelter us from the inclemency of the weather.

The place on which we had landed was a fine sandy beach, with little or no snow on it. Having observed some small pieces of wood cast on shore by the tide, that had formerly been cut with an axe, and a number of long poles scattered along the edge of the bank, which had likewise been cut in the same manner, I thought it likely there might be some inhabitants near at hand, and proposed, as soon as we had taken a little refreshment, to go along the beach to a high point of land at about two miles distance, which was clear of wood, and appeared to be cultivated; thinking from thence we might make some useful discoveries. I accordingly set out soon after with two of the men, and before we had proceeded a mile saw the remains of a shallop or Newfoundland fishing-boat almost covered with sand, which seemed to have been set on fire. This gave us hopes of discovering something else to our satisfaction, and we proceeded as fast as we could to the point of land. Having gained the top of it we descried to our inexpressible joy a few houses about half a mile distant, towards which we directed our course, having no doubt that we should now meet with some relief; but on coming up to them we found that they were only the remains of some old storehouses which had been built there for the curing of cod-fish, and to all appearance had been some years abandoned.

We determined, however, to make the most of our discovery, and observing a number of old casks lying about in different parts, we searched them minutely in hopes of finding some provisions, but to no purpose. As we walked along the point we gathered about a quart of cranberries, and having reconnoitred every part we returned to our boat, communicated the discoveries we had made to our companions, and gave them their share of the berries that we had gathered.

The wind now came round to the north-west, and blew with such violence as to prevent us from proceeding on our voyage. It continued so for two days, when, happening to get up in the middle of the night, I was astonished to observe, that though the wind continued blowing as hard as ever the sea was entirely without agitation. I immediately awoke the mate to inform him of this extraordinary phenomenon; and going down to the beach together to learn the cause, we found the sea all covered with ice, nothing but one sheet of it being to be seen for leagues around. This was an alarming circumstance, as it seemed to preclude all possibility of proceeding any farther, and might even give us cause to regret having left our habitations.

The wind continued to blow from the same quarter for two days longer, and at length on the 9th it became perfectly calm. Next morning the wind came round to the south-east, and it having blown extremely hard, by four o'clock in the afternoon there was not a piece of ice to be seen along the coast, the whole of it having been blown out to sea. The violence of the wind, however, prevented us from moving till the 11th of January, when a fine light breeze blowing along the coast we launched our boat, got round the clear point of the land, hoisted our sail, and put before the wind.

We made tolerable way, and had not proceeded far before we descried an extremely high point about seven leagues

a-head, with a continued precipice along the coast, so that it was impossible for us to land on any part of it before we came to that headland. This made it very dangerous to attempt the passage; for if the wind should happen to come round to the north-west, we must inevitably have perished amongst the rocks. But danger was no longer an object to be considered by us; so we got out two oars, not being able to use any more, as the boat had been so much damaged that two men were constantly employed in keeping her clear of water, and with the assistance of a fair wind made the point at about eleven o'clock at night; but finding no place that we could possibly land on we were obliged to keep along the coast till two in the morning, when the wind increasing, and a stony beach appearing, on which we should not have thought it expedient to land had the wind been moderate, we were obliged to put ashore, and immediately got our provisions out of the boat. The beach was of some height from the surface of the water, the sea having beat the gravel up into a kind of bank, which rendered it impossible for us to haul our boat up. We were therefore obliged to leave her to the mercy of the sea.

The place where we landed was a beach of about four hundred yards in length, bounded at the distance of about fifty yards from the water's edge by a precipice of at least a hundred feet in height, which enclosed it on all sides.

On the 13th the wind came round to the north-west, and the sea beat with such violence against the shore as to drive our boat twenty yards higher than she was, and to beat several holes in her bottom.

The same weather continued for eight days, with a prodigious fall of snow, a circumstance that added to our other inconveniences. At length on the 21st the weather became more moderate, and the snow ceased, having in the course of this last week fallen to the depth of three feet perpendicular.

Next day we contrived with much labour to turn our boat half way over, in order to examine what damage she had received, which we found considerable, the coat of balsam being entirely rubbed off. We expected that the ice would go to sea as soon as the wind should come round to the southward; and therefore thought, if we could not get our boat repaired, that we might still have some chance of meeting with inhabitants. But the great difficulty was, how to repair it; and, after trying various methods, we gave it up as a thing entirely impracticable.

Though it was impossible for us to climb the precipice by which we were encompassed, yet we imagined that we might easily get into the woods by walking along shore upon the ice. In order to make the experiment, the mate and I proposed to walk a few miles; and, having set out, we had not proceeded far before we came to the entrance of a river, and a fine sandy beach. After consulting together, we at last came to a resolution of taking the next day what provisions we had upon our backs, and coasting along the ice, till we could discover some inhabitants, expecting, from its present appearance of strength, that it would remain for some time longer: and the wind having drifted the greatest part of the snow off it, we computed that we should be able to walk about ten miles a day, even in our present weak and reduced condition.

Thus, being fully resolved, we were to set out the morning of the 24th; but in the night preceding it the wind came round to the south-east, and blew hard, attended with snow and rain; so that in the morning, as I already apprehended would be the case, the whole sheet of ice was demolished, or driven out to sea. Thus circumstanced, we were again obliged to turn our thoughts towards some scheme for repairing our boat. We had plenty of oakum to stop up the holes and seams, but nothing to substitute for pitch, to prevent the water from penetrating. I at length thought of throwing

water over the oakum, and letting it freeze into a cake of ice. The men made light of my undertaking; but I soon convinced them of its utility, for, by continually throwing water over the oakum, we froze up every seam and hole in such a manner, that not a drop of water could enter, as long as the weather continued freezing as at present.

On the 27th of January, the weather being moderate, and a light breeze directly off the shore, we got our boat very carefully launched, and set off early in the morning from this ill-omened bay. We had the pleasure to observe that the boat made little or no water, so that we were enabled to keep our four oars continually at work.

The weather continued very moderate all the day of the 27th, so that by six o'clock in the evening we computed that we had rowed about twelve miles from where we departed in the morning.

We put ashore about six o'clock upon a small sandy beach, and by placing the oars under our boat, dragged her carefully some yards from the water; so that she lay very safe while the wind continued as it then was. We next cut some branches, made a fire, and sheltered ourselves as well as possible in the wood.

A shower of rain the next day unfortunately melted all the ice off our boat; we were therefore prevented from going any farther till a return of the frost; and, what made the matter worse, our provisions were now reduced to two pounds and a half of beef for each man. On the morning of the 29th, the mate having wandered a little distance from our fire, returned in haste to inform me that he had discovered a partridge perched on a bough of a tree. I immediately went to the place where he had seen it, and observing that the bird was very tame, and not above fourteen feet from the ground, I cut down a long pole, and taking part of the rope-yarn that fastened my canvas shoes, made a running loop of it, and fixed it to the end of the pole; then walking softly under the

tree, and lifting the pole gently up, I fixed the loop about the partridge's neck, and giving it a sudden jirk, closed the loop, and secured the bird. We then went towards the fire with our prize, and boiled it in some melted snow, together with a little salt water, to give the broth a relish: having divided it into six equal parts, and cast lots for the choice of each, we sat down to what we found a delicious meal.

On the afternoon of the 29th it began to freeze hard, when we took the advantage of the frost to stop the boat's leaks as before; and the wind continuing moderate, we launched her and put to sea. The day being almost spent before we set off, we could not make above seven miles to a sandy beach and thick wood, which seemed to afford a tolerable shelter. In this place we passed the night; and the next day we launched our boat betimes in the morning, in order to get before night as far as possible on our journey; but we had not proceeded above six miles before the wind freshening up from the south-west, obliged us to put ashore, and haul up our boat.

A heavy fall of rain, which continued the whole day, rendered our situation extremely uncomfortable, and melted again the icy caulking of the boat. We were therefore to console ourselves as well as we could, in the certainty of remaining here till a return of the frost, and meanwhile proposed to reconnoitre as far as our reduced state would allow us into the country. In this, however, we were prevented by the quantity of snow which still lay on the ground, and was not yet sufficiently frozen to bear our weight without rackets or snow-shoes.

Soon after, the wind coming round to the north-west, and bringing the frost along with it, we were once more enabled to repair our boat, and to prepare for launching it, as soon as the wind should abate its violence. This happening in some degree on the 1st of February, we immediately embarked, and pursued our coasting voyage; but the severity of the

cold having formed a quantity of ice, it was with extreme labour that we contrived to get five miles before night, one of our party being employed in breaking the ice with a pole, and clearing it from the bows of the boat.

The following day, the wind blowing fresh from the north-west quarter, prevented us again from proceeding any farther till the 3d, when, coming round to the west, which is directly along the shore, we were enabled to embark and pursue our voyage. Our boat, notwithstanding all our diligence in caulking, made now so much water, that we were obliged to keep one man constantly at work, in baling it out with a camp-kettle. The wind, however, was as fair as we could wish; and being neither too slack nor too violent, we for some time went at the rate of four miles an hour, with the assistance of our oars; but soon after, the wind increasing, we laid in our oars, and ran under our sail alone, at the rate of about five miles an hour.

After having run about sixteen miles, we discovered an exceedingly high land, about six leagues distant, with several other mountains and large bays between us; and it being yet early in the day, a fine wind, and no great sea, we were in hopes, if the wind should not increase too much, that we should be able to reach it before night. About two o'clock in the afternoon, when we were within three leagues of it, we discovered an island about twenty miles from the main; and, on comparing circumstances, we concluded that the island must be that of St. Paul, and the high land the north point of Cape Breton.

It was almost dark by the time we reached the North Cape; where, finding no place to land, we were obliged to double the Cape, and continue our journey.

Finding no place to land during the night, we continued rowing as close as we could to the rocks, till about five in the morning; when hearing the sea run on the shore very long and heavy, we imagined that we must be off a sandy beach.

We accordingly rowed towards the land, and at the distance of fifty yards, for it was yet dark, were able to discern a beach at least four miles in length. It was not a convenient place for landing, yet we effected it with more ease than we expected, and suffered no other inconvenience than that of having our boat nearly filled with water on the beach. Having landed, our first care was to haul up the boat. We then got into the woods, which lay close to the shore, where we kindled a fire; but having got wet in landing, and being in a very weak and reduced condition, it was with the greatest difficulty that we could keep ourselves awake; we were, therefore, under the necessity of watching in turn, lest, all being asleep together, the fire should go out, and we should be frozen to death. Having now time to consider every circumstance, we had no doubt remaining, but that we were upon the North Cape of the Island of Breton, which, together with Cape Roy, on the Island of Newfoundland, marks the entrance of the Gulph of St. Lawrence.

Our provisions were now entirely consumed; and having not the most distant prospect of getting any more, we were ready to abandon ourselves to despair. Having weighed the necessity of the case, and the misery of perishing by hunger, I was of opinion, as well as the mate, that it would be most advisable to sacrifice one for the preservation of the rest; and that the most proper method would be by casting lots, for the purpose of determining which should be the unfortunate victim. But this resolution we agreed to put off to the last extremity. We commenced a search along the beach, and at length succeeded in obtaining about two quarts of hips, or wild rose buds, by throwing up the snow, and searching in different parts of the bank. Having with this sorry food allayed in some degree the keen sense of hunger, and the wind having become somewhat more moderate, we got into our boat and pushed off, the day being already drawing towards a conclusion. Our progress was, however, soon

impeded by the quantity of ice that floated upon the water, which obliged us to put ashore on another part of the same beach. In landing I had the misfortune to let the tinder-box fall from my bosom into the water, by which we were unable to kindle a fire; and, being exceedingly wet, we thought it best to reimbark, and return to the spot whence we came. It was with the greatest difficulty that we got back; but, on our arrival at the place, we had the satisfaction to find that the fire was not totally extinguished. Had it been so, we must have perished in the course of the night. The fire being repaired, I cut up the remainder of my shirt, and made some more tinder.

On the 8th of February, the wind came round to the south-west, which cleared off the ice, and enabled us to leave this place by ten o'clock in the morning. As we proceeded along the shore, we found it was not quite so rocky as it had been on the other side of the North Cape. We were therefore able to land this night, without difficulty, within a large rock, by which we were sheltered from the wind and sea. The next day, the weather continuing moderate, we had again proceeded about eight miles on our journey, when the wind beginning to blow so hard as to raise a considerable swell, we were obliged to steer to the shore; and in landing, had the misfortune to lose two of our oars, which were washed overboard by the surf.

On the following day the wind lulled, and we immediately took the advantage of it to put to sea. We had now but two oars remaining; which being double manned, we contrived to get about six miles before night. This was a very hard day's work, considering our present weak condition; for having been a length of time without tasting any kind of nourishment, we were so much reduced in strength, that when we got on shore we could scarcely walk fifty yards together.

The weather being unfavourable on the 11th, we were

under the necessity of remaining the whole day in the same resting-place; and having leisure to search about the shore, we were fortunate enough to find a few rose-buds, which we at present esteemed a great delicacy.

On the 12th the wind became moderate, and we proceeded once more on our journey. The coast seemed to diminish in height as we passed along it, which made us hope we were now approaching the cultivated part of the island. Next day the weather got milder, with a fall of rain; so that it was with difficulty we could get our boat to swim, the ice thawing gradually off the bottom. This obliged us to put ashore long before night; and when we had landed, and made a fire, we found no other immediate want but that of provisions, having consumed all the hips or rose-buds that we had gathered at our last landing place. Being now driven to the last extremity we were obliged to sacrifice our prospect of travelling any farther to the immediate preservation of our lives. About a dozen tallow candles remained, which we had hitherto employed in stopping the leaks of our boat, as fast as she sprung one in any particular place. Of these we divided a small part among us, which gave us some relief for the present. The two following days we coasted for a few miles, searching for a place where we could meet with some hips; but our search proved ineffectual.

On the 17th we made another provision of a part of the tallow candles that yet remained; and on the following day, the wind being favourable, we proceeded about five miles, where, finding a fine flat country, we put on shore, with a determination to perish on this place, unless some unforeseen accident should bring us relief. To attempt drawing up our boat would, in our present weak condition, have been a vain undertaking, so that we were obliged to leave her exposed to the mercy of the sea. All that we could preserve was our axe, a saw, and the sail of the boat, which we generally made use of as a covering.

As soon as we landed we cleared away the snow from a particular spot in the entrance of the wood, where we intended to remain; and having cut some small branches of pine to lie upon, together with some larger to serve for a shelter, which we stuck into the bank of snow that surrounded us, we made our fire. This done, we all went in search of hips, and had the good fortune to find about a pint of them, which, boiled up with a couple of tallow candles, afforded us a tolerable meal.

The next day we passed without any kind of provision, and being apprehensive that our little remaining strength would soon desert us, we employed ourselves in cutting and piling as much wood as we were able, to supply the fire. Meanwhile the waves had beat our boat so high upon the beach, as to be quite dry as soon as the wind subsided, and to deprive us of the power of putting to sea again, had we been disposed to do it: for our strength was by no means equal to the task of moving her a single foot.

We again employed the whole day of the 19th in search of hips; but it was not attended with any success. As we had not a proper quantity of fuel, (being too weak to make any farther use of our axe,) the fire that we kept up was but just sufficient to preserve us from freezing.

Having now no more than two tallow candles remaining, we thought it likely that we might derive some degree of nourishment from the kelp-weed, of which there was a quantity lying upon the shore. We accordingly collected a little of it, and, with melted snow, boiled it a few hours in a kettle; but, at the conclusion, found it very little tenderer than at first. We then melted one of our tallow candles in the liquor, and having supped it up, and eaten a quantity of the weed, our appetite became somewhat satiated; but in about two hours time we were all affected with a very uneasy sensation, and were soon after seized with a fit of vomiting, without being able to bring the offending matter entirely off

the stomach. The fit of vomiting having continued for about four hours, we found ourselves tolerably easy, but at the same time exceedingly exhausted.

On the 22d we made use of some more kelp-weed, and our last tallow candle. It still operated in the same manner, but not to so violent a degree as it had done before.

Our candles being all consumed, and having, for three days tasted of no other food but the kelp-weed, we began to swell to an alarming degree. In a few days the swelling had increased to such a degree all over our bodies, that, notwithstanding the little flesh we had upon our bones, we could sink our fingers two inches deep on the skin, the impression of which remained visible for above an hour after. Hunger nevertheless still obliged us to make use of the kelp-weed.

On consulting with the mate, I found, that though our companions objected to the proposal of casting lots to determine which should be the victim, yet all concurred in the necessity of some one being sacrificed for the preservation of the rest. The only question was, how it should be determined? when, by a kind of reasoning more agreeable to the dictates of self-love than of justice, it was agreed on, that as the captain was now so exceedingly reduced, as to be evidently the first who would sink under our present complicated misery; as he had been the person to whom we considered ourselves in some measure indebted for all our misfortunes; and farther, as he had, ever since our shipwreck, been the most remiss in his exertions towards the general good, he was undoubtedly the person who should be first sacrificed.

I must confess that I thought at that time there was some colour of truth in this conclusion; yet I was not a little shocked at the captain's intended fate, although I had more reason than any one else to be incensed against him, not only on account of his neglect of duty, and his mal-practices at the hut, in purloining our provisions, but for another reason

likewise. After our shipwreck, I had discovered by some paper, which had been washed on shore, that though the captain's pretended destination was to New York, yet his real one was to the West Indies, if he could possibly effect it. Thus would he have baffled general Haldimand's intentions, in sending me with dispatches that might be of the first consequence to this country; and not only have disappointed, but also have defrauded me of the money which I paid him for my passage.

The determination now made was kept secret from the captain; and it would have been impossible for us to live many days longer without putting it in execution, had we not happily met with relief from a quarter whence we little expected. On the 28th of February, as we were all lying about our fire, we thought that we heard the sound of human voices in the woods, and soon discovered two Indians, with guns in their hands, who did not seem yet to have perceived us. This sight gave us fresh strength and spirits; so, getting up, we advanced towards them with the greatest eagerness imaginable.

As soon as we were perceived by the Indians, they started back, and seemed fixed to the ground with surprise and horror. This indeed is not to be wondered at; our appearance was enough to alarm the most intrepid: our clothes being almost entirely burnt off, so that we were bare in several parts of our bodies, our limbs swollen to a prodigious bulk, our eyes from the same cause almost invisible, and our hair in a confused and dishevelled state about our heads and shoulders. As we advanced toward the Indians, some of us wept, while others laughed, through joy. Being a little recovered from their surprise, they did not show much inclination to accost us, till I got up to one of them, and took him by the hand; when he shook it for some time very heartily; the usual mode of salutation among the Indians.

They began at length to show marks of compassion at our

distressed appearance, walked with us to our fire, and sitting down by it together, one of them, who could speak a little broken French, desired we would inform him whence we came, and the particulars of the accident that brought us there. I accordingly gave him as concise an account as possible of the disasters and fatigues we had undergone.

Having finished my narration, I asked the Indian if he could furnish us with any kind of provisions? to which he answered in the affirmative. Observing that we had very little fire, he suddenly started up, and took our axe in his hand; when, laughing heartily, he threw it down again, and taking his tomahawk from his side, he went, and in a short time cut a quantity of wood, which he brought and threw upon our fire. This done, he took up his gun, and, without saying a word, went off with his companion.

After about three hours had elapsed we perceived them coming round a point at a small distance in a bark canoe. Being arrived and landed upon the beach, they took out of the canoe some smoked venison and a bladder of seal oil, which they brought up to our fire-place: having put some of the meat into our kettle they boiled it in melted snow, and then gave each of us a very small quantity of it, together with some oil.

This light repast being ended, the Indians desired three of us to embark in their canoe, that being all she could carry at a time, and proceed from this place to their hut, which lay five miles farther by water, and about a mile from the shore, in the middle of the woods. We were received at the sea-side by three other Indians, and about twelve or fourteen women and children, who had been there waiting our arrival. Having landed from the canoe, we were conducted by these last to their habitation in the wood, which consisted of three huts or wigwams, there being that number of families amongst them: meanwhile the same two Indians as had brought us went back in their canoe for the

three remaining men of our party. On arriving at the hut we were treated with the greatest humanity by these people; they gave us some broth to sup, but would not suffer us to eat meat or any kind of substantial food whatever. Having provided for our own immediate wants, our thoughts recurred to those unfortunate men whom we had left by the wreck. In case they should be still alive, I was determined no means should be omitted for their preservation.

From the description I gave the Indian of the situation of the river, and of a small island that lay nearly opposite, they said that they knew the place perfectly well, that it was above a hundred miles distant, and that, if they undertook the journey, they must expect some compensation for their trouble. I informed them that I had money, and would willingly pay them. Then taking the purse from my servant, I showed them the hundred and eighty guineas that it contained, and presented them with a guinea each, for which they expressed their satisfaction by laughing. I was determined at all events to save the people, if any of them remained alive, though the Indians should be ever so exorbitant in their demands; and made an agreement with them at last, that they should set off the next day, which was the second of March, and that they should receive twenty-five guineas at their departure and the same sum on their return. This being adjusted they immediately went to work in making a proper number of snow-shoes for themselves and for the men; and three of them went off the next morning.

After these people knew I had money my situation amongst them was not near so comfortable as before, for they became as mercenary as they had hitherto been charitable, and exacted above ten times the value for every little necessary they furnished for myself and the rest of my companions.

After being absent near a fortnight the Indians arrived with three men, who were the only survivors of the eight

and his feet and all other members are of the like proportion. He considers himself as double jointed; and in his hand-bills is described as such.

In addition to the accounts of persons of gigantic stature, given in our former volumes, we subjoin the following:

July 20, 1760, died Ames M'Donald, near Cork, aged 117, seven feet six inches high.—*Ann. Reg.* 1760, p. 126.

Cornelius M'Garth was born in the year 1736, in the county of Tipperary, within five miles of the silver mines. His parents were no way remarkable for their stature, being of the middle size, and were common country people; nor were their other children taller than ordinary. In July, 1752, Cornelius, then about sixteen years of age, was in the city of Cork, where he was followed about by crowds of people, on account of his extraordinary size, for he then measured six feet eight inches and three quarters. The preceding year he was much afflicted with violent pains in his limbs, for which he bathed in salt water; however, these were only growing pains; for he actually grew, from little more than five feet to the above-mentioned stature, in one year. He lived at the house of Dr. Berkley, Bishop of Cloyne, until he recovered the use of his limbs, about three months. His hand was then as large as a middling shoulder of mutton, and the last for his shoes measured fifteen inches. He was exhibited in England, and in almost all the great cities in Europe; and when he returned to England, measured seven feet eight inches without his shoes. He was in bad health, from an intermitting fever that seized him in Flanders; and died May 16, 1760, aged twenty-four.

M'Garth was but four inches short of the skeleton which was dug up in the place of a Roman camp near St. Alban's, by an urn, inscribed Marcus Antoninus; which, by the dimensions of the bones, was judged to be eight feet four inches high, by the celebrated anatomist, Mr. Cheselden, who published an account of it in the *Philosophical Transactions*, No. 333.

March 15, 1761, Tregoney, in Cornwall. As some tinners were lately employed on a new mine, one of them accidentally struck his pick-axe on a stone. The earth being removed, a coffin was found. On removing the lid they discovered a skeleton of a man of gigantic size, which, on the admission of the air, mouldered into dust. One entire tooth remained whole, which was two inches and a half long, and thick in proportion. The length of the coffin was eleven feet three inches, and depth three feet nine inches.

Ann. Reg. 1761, p. 88.

All the public prints make mention of an extraordinary monument of gigantic human stature, found by two labourers in Leixlip church yard, on the 10th July, 1812. It appeared to have belonged to a man of not less than ten feet in height; and is believed to be the same mentioned by Keating—Phelim O'Tool, buried in Leixlip church yard, near the salmon leap, one thousand two hundred and fifty-two years ago.—In the place was found a large finger-ring, of pure gold. There was no inscription or characters of any kind upon it. One of the teeth is said to have been as large as an ordinary fore-finger.

May 18, 1763. As the workmen were digging a vault under the master's apartments in the Charter House, they discovered a perfect human skeleton, of a surprising length; the thigh bone measured two feet two inches, and the other bones in proportion.—*Ann. Reg.* 1763, p. 82.

March 6, 1813. The workmen digging the foundation of King John's Palace, at Old Ford, found a stone coffin, with a skeleton near seven feet long.—*Star*, March 6.

Mr. P. Collinson relates, that a gentleman of Durham, who rents the quarries of lime upon Fullwell Hills, near Monkwearmouth, in the county of Durham, within a measured mile of the sea, brought to him some large teeth, and two Roman coins, found in a grave. In the year 1759, he removed a ridge of lime-stone and rubbish, upon one of the quarries, which he was digging in search of stone. In the

middle of this ridge was found a skeleton of a human body, which measured nine feet six inches in length, the shin bone measuring two feet three inches from the knee to the ancle. The head lay to the west, and was defended from the superincumbent earth by four large flat stones. The skeleton was measured in his presence; and he took the teeth out of the jaw himself. The coins were found on the south side of the skeleton near the left hand.

Ann. Reg. 1763, p. 159.

NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE OF

JOHN BELLINGHAM,

THE ATROCIOUS ASSASSIN OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SPENCER PERCEVAL; WITH PARTICULARS OF HIS TRIAL AND EXECUTION.

It is not too much to assert, that assassination is abhorrent to the feelings and repugnant to the national character of the English. The murder of the meanest individual seldom fails to excite universal detestation, whilst in some other civilized countries, the slightest provocation is very often not to be appeased but with blood; and the crime is passed over without enquiry, and without punishment. The fall of the prime minister of Britain by the hand of an assassin is an occurrence so rare, and so extraordinary; and the conduct of the perpetrator of the bloody deed so unaccountable, according to the usual mode of reasoning, and the ordinary principles of calculation, that the transactions of his life seem well worthy of being recorded in our pages. History will preserve the name of Bellingham, and hand it down to the execration of the remotest posterity.

The father of this wretched man was a land-surveyor and miniature-painter, and his mother the daughter of a respectable country gentleman of St. Neots, in the county of Huntingdon. They were married about the year 1768, in London, where John, their second child, was born in 1771. His parents soon afterwards purchased a house at St. Neots, and

resided in that town till about 1775, when they returned to London, and lived in Tichfield Street, Oxford Street. In 1779, the father exhibited symptoms of mental derangement, and it was thought advisable to place him in St. Luke's Hospital, whence, at the end of twelve months he was dismissed as incurable, and died not long afterwards.

In what manner the subject of this narrative was educated we are not informed, but there is every reason to believe that his mother, to whose piety and tenderness he bore, in his last moments the most unequivocal testimony, did not suffer him to want any instruction which she had in her power to procure. He seems to have been early destined for business, for at the age of fourteen, he was placed as an apprentice with Mr. Love, jeweller, in Whitechapel, a man of excellent character. Here his perverse and troublesome disposition manifested itself, and at length impelled him to run away and enter on board of the Hartwell East Indiaman. In his first voyage in that vessel he was wrecked off Bonavista, one of the Cape de Verd islands, and escaped with only one more in an open boat. On his return to England he lived an unsettled life, till about 1793, when he persuaded his mother, from the remnant of her fortune, which he had chiefly exhausted, to establish him as a tradesman in Oxford Street. Here he not only failed in a very short time, but was believed, though the fact was never legally proved, to have set fire to his house.

A long chasm here occurs in Bellingham's history. How the next ten years of his life were spent we have no account. His mother, we are told, died in 1802, at Liverpool, overwhelmed with afflictions, occasioned chiefly by his indiscretions. It was not long afterwards that he married Miss Mary Ann Neville, the daughter of a respectable merchant at Newry, in Ireland, to whom, notwithstanding the reports propagated on the subject, he appears to have conducted himself with uniform kindness and affection. In 1804, he went on commercial business to Russia, whither his wife

accompanied him. Having formed a connection with Messrs. Doorbecker and Co. of Archangel, in the timber line, he returned to England to seek a contract for the supply of timber, and entered into considerable engagements with the merchants of Hull. Ships were in consequence sent out to bring home cargoes, but the house of Doorbecker having meanwhile become bankrupt, the vessels returned in ballast. Bellingham, who still remained at Hull, was arrested and thrown into prison by the disappointed merchants, for the non-fulfilment of the contract; and during his confinement, or soon afterwards, he wrote a pamphlet for the purpose of ridiculing them. On recovering his liberty he again proceeded to Archangel, where he entered into various speculations, which ended in his involving himself in still greater difficulties. It appeared, from the enquiries of Lord George Levison Gower, at that time the British ambassador to the court of Russia, and our consul Sir Stephen Shairp, that Bellingham had been engaged in commercial business with the house of Doorbecker and Co.; that pecuniary claims were made by each party against the other, and that these claims had been referred for decision, to four merchants, two British subjects being appointed on behalf of Bellingham. By the award of these arbitrators Bellingham was declared to be indebted to the assignees of Doorbecker, two thousand rubles. This sum, Bellingham, notwithstanding their decision, refused to pay. He now became extremely troublesome to the government, to whom he transmitted memorial after memorial. He appealed to the senate, which confirmed the judgment against him: he moreover conducted himself with much passion, and was at length sent to prison, claiming in vain the protection of the British ambassador, who indeed, under the circumstances of his case, could render him no assistance. He was liberated in 1809, on which he returned to England, and deeply impressed with the notion, that his case was of such a nature as to require the interference of the British

government, and some compensation for the losses which he had sustained, he made numerous applications, both personally and in writing to the principal officers of administration. They, however, viewing the affair in a very different light, not only declined entering into the merits of the case, but plainly informed him that he had nothing to expect from that quarter. Exasperated by these refusals his naturally irritable mind conceived the horrible idea of taking justice, as he expressed himself, into his own hands, and executing summary revenge on one of those to whom he attributed the failure of his applications for redress.

The Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was the man on whom he pitched for his victim. He frequently attended in the lobby and the gallery of the House of Commons, either with the design of making himself acquainted with the persons of the members, or waiting for an opportunity to execute his sanguinary resolution. At length on the 11th of May, 1812, Bellingham, who had purchased pistols for the purpose, stationed himself at the door of the lobby of the House of Commons, and on the entrance of Mr. Perceval, drew one of the pistols from his pocket and discharged it at the minister. The ball entered the left breast and penetrated the heart. Mr. Perceval immediately fell, and before he could be conveyed to the Speaker's apartments all signs of life had fled.

The horror and dismay occasioned by the catastrophe, for a short time prevented any inquiries respecting the perpetrator of the odious deed, who, however, took no steps to conceal himself or to effect his escape. On the contrary, with a composure which could result only from a profound conviction of the propriety of his conduct, when one of the by-standers exclaimed—Where is the villain who fired? he went up to him, and coolly answered, I am the unfortunate man. At the same time he quietly resigned himself into their hands and submitted to be searched. The pistol with

which he effected his fatal purpose, together with its fellow primed and loaded, and a bundle of papers folded like letters were found upon him. He was placed upon a bench near the fire-place, and all the doors were closed. When interrogated respecting the motive for this murder, he avowed his name, adding, "It is a private injury—I know what I have done: it was a denial of justice on the part of government." By this time he was surrounded by many members of the House of Commons, and to a question put to him by Sir William Curtis, he replied, "I have been fourteen days in making up my mind to the deed, but never could accomplish it till this moment."

Two messengers soon appeared to convey the prisoner to the bar of the House, where the utmost anxiety and dismay prevailed. On the suggestion of the Speaker he was then conducted to the prison-room, where Mr. Watson, serjeant at arms of the House of Lords, Mr. Combe and Mr. M. A. Taylor, as magistrates, attended to receive the depositions of the various witnesses of the horrid transaction. After their examination Bellingham was conveyed to the office of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and on the breaking up of a council, which had been summoned, he was sent to Newgate upon the commitment of M. A. Taylor, Esq. and double ironed.

The next morning he sent the following note to Mrs. Roberts, New Millman-street, in whose house he had lodged for some months previous to the commission of the crime. It affords a striking illustration of the state of his mind in the awful situation in which he was placed.

Tuesday Morning, Old Bailey.

DEAR MADAM,

Yesterday midnight I was escorted to this neighbourhood by a noble troop of light horse, and delivered into the care of Mr. Newman (by Mr. Taylor, the magistrate, and M. P.)

as a state prisoner of the first class. For eight years I have never found my mind so tranquil as since this melancholy but necessary catastrophe; as the merits or demerits of my peculiar case must be regularly unfolded in a criminal court of justice to ascertain the guilty party, by a jury of my country, I have to request the favour of you to send me three or four shirts, some cravats, handkerchiefs, night-caps, stockings, &c. out of my drawers, together with comb, soap, tooth-brush, with any other trifle that presents itself, which you think I may have occasion for, and inclose them in my leather trunk, and the key please to send sealed, per bearer; also my great coat, flannel-gown, and black waistcoat, which will much oblige,

Dear Madam, your very obedient servant,

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

To the above please to add the Prayer-book.

To Mrs. Roberts.

The same day a coroner's inquest, summoned to view the body of Mr. Perceval, returned a verdict of wilful murder against the prisoner.

The Old Bailey Sessions were about to take place when the murder was committed. As the case precluded all doubt, the bill of indictment was speedily prepared, and found true by the grand jury; upon which the culprit was brought to trial on Friday, May 15, before Sir James Mansfield, Mr. Justice Grose, and the usual officers of the court. The counsel for the prosecution were Sir Vicary Gibbs, Attorney-General, Messrs. Garrow, Abbott, Knapp, and Gurney; for the prisoner, Messrs. Alley and Reynolds. Previously to the prisoner's pleading Mr. Alley read an affidavit, stating the insanity of the prisoner, which he urged on the court to prevent the prisoner from pleading; but as no proof of his present or recent insanity was offered, the argument was over-ruled.

The accusation descanted on by the Attorney-General was little more than a repetition of the history of the prisoner's conduct in opposing the course of justice in Russia, and in importuning the public officers for compensation in London. His applications were uniformly civilly answered in the negative; and when he found ministers averse from countenancing his claims, he directed his study to revenge. He bought pistols, and caused an additional pocket to be made in his dress for the convenience of carrying and concealing them. He posted himself at the door of the House of Commons, where he deliberately awaited his victim. The learned advocate proceeded to shew that when a man is capable of distinguishing right from wrong, the law admits no plea of insanity. In the case of Arnold for shooting at Lord Onslow, though insane at times from his childhood, yet his preparations for the act proved he was not insane at the time. In the case of Lord Ferrers, for shooting his steward, though occasionally of extravagant mind, yet he was deemed not insane at the time of the action; he was therefore condemned and executed. The prisoner had never been under medical care for that malady; and the evidence attempted on his behalf related to a distant time; not within three or four years. The prisoner appeared perfectly competent to manage his affairs, and was even entrusted to transact those of others, and, excepting the act for which he was arraigned, all his conduct appeared perfectly rational. The Attorney-General then called Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Lynn, surgeon, Mr. Burgess, and General Gascoigne, to prove the fact of Mr. Perceval having been murdered by the prisoner, and the identity of the latter; their testimony was the same as on the coroner's inquest; and was conclusive as to the fact, and the act of the prisoner. J. Taylor, of North Place, Gray's Inn-lane, tailor, proved his being employed by the prisoner to make him a side pocket in his coat, within the breast, on the left side, so that he could conveniently get at

it with his right hand—the pocket was directed to be of a very particular depth. This coat the prisoner had on when he committed the murder, and was seen previously to the act, by Mr. V. Dowling, J. Norris, and Vickery, with his hand in his side pocket, waiting with anxiety, near the outer lobby door for the arrival of some person. He was within arm's length of all that entered.

The evidence for the crown being closed, the prisoner was called on for his defence. He proposed to leave it to his counsel, but was informed that they were not allowed to address the court in his defence.

The prisoner then said, that the papers taken from his person were documents absolutely necessary to his defence, and he claimed them from the court. They were accordingly delivered to him, and he proceeded to address the Jury in a speech of above an hour's continuance, interspersed with the reading of those several documents, and with his own comments. He expressed his thanks to the king's attorney-general for the resistance he opposed to the defence set up by his counsel, which went to prove that he was insane; because, if it had succeeded, it would not have answered to the purpose of his justification. He returned thanks to his counsel for their zeal in his defence, and their intentions in setting up such a plea at the desire of his friends; but neither now, nor at any time, had he ever incurred the charge of insanity, with the exception of a single instance in Russia, when the pressure of his sufferings had exposed him to that imputation. As to the lamentable catastrophe for which he was now on his trial before that court, no man could lament the sad event with deeper sorrow than he did; not even the family and nearest friends of the unfortunate Mr. Perceval. If he had been capable of taking away the life of that gentleman with any deliberate feeling of malice prepense, he should deserve to be accounted the most atrocious monster in existence. He disclaimed,

however, in the most solemn manner, any such motive of personal or premeditated malice towards that gentleman in particular; and could only state, that the unfortunate lot had fallen upon him as a leading member of that administration, which had repeatedly refused him any reparation for the unparalleled injuries he had sustained in Russia, through a series of years, with the cognizance and sanction of the accredited minister of this country at the Court of St. Petersburg.

He then went into a detail of his sufferings for the last eight years; said that he had been suspected at Archangel of having sent intelligence to Lloyd's, that a ship had been unfairly wrecked in the White Sea, in consequence of which the underwriters refused to pay the insurance; that he was therefore subjected to an unmerited persecution in Russia; that he was imprisoned at Archangel; that he was sent to Petersburgh, where he made his complaints to the Russian government, but was again, on a false charge of debt, thrown into prison; that he applied to Lord Leveson Gower, who afforded him no assistance, but that he was marched past his house daily with common malefactors; that his wife, only twenty years of age, with an infant in arms, and pregnant, was at this time obliged to make the voyage to England unprotected; that he was kept in a miserable condition for six years, bandied from prison to prison; at length, through the interference of a benevolent Russian, and when he was deserted by his Britannic Majesty's representatives, he obtained a revisal of the corrupt proceedings against him: but could procure no pecuniary compensation.

On his return to England he laid a statement of his grievances before the Marquis Wellesley, accompanied by authentic documents, and claiming some redress for the injuries he had sustained, through the conduct of the British minister in Russia, which injuries it was impossible he should have suffered, if they had not been countenanced and

sanctioned by that minister. The Noble Marquis was then in court, and could contradict his statement if it was false. He represented the circumstances as they really were; and not as personally concerning himself, but as involving the honour of the British government. He was referred by the Noble Marquis to the Privy Council, and from the Privy Council to the Treasury; and thus bandied from one department to another, he applied to Mr. Perceval, who refused to support his claims. He was next advised to petition parliament; but then he was informed it was necessary to have the sanction of his Majesty's ministers, as his claim was of a pecuniary nature; and he accordingly wrote to Mr. Perceval during the session of 1811, but received for answer from his secretary, that the time for presenting private petitions was gone by, and that Mr. Perceval could not encourage his hopes that he would recommend his claims to the House of Commons. He next memorialized his Royal Highness the Prince Regent in a statement of his sufferings; some time afterwards he received an answer from Colonel M'Mahon, stating, that by some accident his petition was mislaid. He then wrote another petition to his Royal Highness, and he understood it was referred to the Treasury, as appeared by a letter to him from Mr. Secretary Ryder, dated Whitehall, on the very day his Royal Highness came to unrestricted power: but at the Treasury he was afterwards told that nothing could be done, and that he had nothing to expect. He wrote another memorial to the Prince Regent, but was informed by a letter from Mr. Ryder, that his Royal Highness had not been pleased to give any commands on the subject. Foiled in all his attempts to obtain justice, he applied about six weeks since to the Magistrates at Bow-street, in a letter, stating his grievances, intreating their interference by application to government—and adding, that if all redress was refused to him, he must be obliged to do himself justice by taking such steps as those must be responsible for who

resisted all his applications. He received an answer in a few lines from Mr. Justice Read, saying, that that office could not interfere: but he found that Mr. Read, as was his duty, had represented the circumstance to government; and on a subsequent application to the Treasury, he was informed there, that he had nothing to expect, and that he was at liberty to take such steps as he thought fit. Finding himself thus bereft of all hopes of redress, his affairs ruined by his long imprisonment in Russia, through the fault of the British minister; his property dispersed for want of his own attention; his family driven into tribulation and want; his wife and children claiming support, which he was unable to give them; himself involved in difficulties, and pressed on all sides by claims which he could not answer; and that justice refused to him, which it was the duty of government to give, not as a matter of favour but of right; and Mr. Perceval obstinately refusing to sanction his claims in parliament—he was driven to despair, and under these agonizing feelings was impelled to that desperate alternative which he had unfortunately adopted, and for which the last answer of the government had given him a *carte-blanche.*

Lord G. L. Gower was then in the court, and he called on him to contradict, if he could, the statement he had made. Mr. Perceval had unfortunately fallen the victim of his desperate resolution. No man lamented more sincerely than he did the calamitous event. He could never reflect on it without being ready to burst into tears. If he had met Lord Gower, in the desperate resolution he had taken, he (Lord Gower) should have received the ball, and not Mr. Perceval. He appealed to the feelings of the jury, as fathers, as husbands, as men; and to the affection which they owed to their families, and the regard they felt for the honour and integrity of their characters, what they would have done under the provocations he had received.

"Gentlemen," continued the prisoner, "I am now coming

to a conclusion. I have stated to you a history of my case; in the firm hope that it will prove some justification of the crime with which I am charged. I shall only further trouble you with a defence which, at a late hour last night, and at an early hour this morning, I drew up."—[Here the prisoner read from a written paper, which was in substance as follows.]—"Gentlemen, whenever I appear before the tribunal of my God, I shall appear there as innocent of the wilful murder of Mr. Perceval, as they, who, after judgment, are admitted among the angels of heaven. That my arm destroyed him, I allow; that he perished by my hand, I admit; but to constitute felony, there must be *malice prepense*, there must be the wilful intention, and I deny that that has been proved. Unless proved, however, the felony cannot be made out; this you will shortly hear from the bench, and in that case you must acquit me. Recollect, Gentlemen, what was my situation; recollect that my family was ruined, and myself destroyed, merely because it was Mr. Perceval's pleasure that justice should not be granted, sheltering himself behind the imagined security of his station, and trampling upon law and right, in the belief that no retribution could reach him. Of that departed gentleman I do not wish to speak with disrespect; I do not wish to say any thing in disparagement of the virtues which he was allowed to possess; and when I speak of him, I speak of him only in reference to myself. In a case so strong as mine, when I demanded justice, I demanded only my right, and not a favour; I demanded what is the birth-right and privilege of every Englishman. Gentlemen, when a minister sets himself above the laws, as Mr. Perceval did, he does it at his own personal risk. If this were not so, the mere will of the minister would become the law, and what would then become of your liberties? As to any malicious intention towards Mr. Perceval, or any desire to injure him, I solemnly avow that it was most averse from my heart. Justice, and justice only,

was my object. I was driven to despair, to agony, to ruin, by the conduct of ministers. I gave notice at Bow-street, that if my claims were finally rejected, I would do myself justice, and that solely to ascertain in a criminal court of justice, whether a minister of England has a right to refuse justice to a subject of the realm. I have done so; and I again repeat, that the direct refusal of justice on the part of administration was the sole cause of this sad catastrophe; and his Majesty's ministers have now to reflect upon their own impure conduct, for an act which has deprived the country of the talents of Mr. Perceval. It is a melancholy fact, that to warp justice on any pretext, or under any circumstances, is the cause of all moral evil: if this position needs any proof, the unfortunate event upon which you are now assembled to decide affords that proof. The cruelty of my case must be obvious to you. If a poor but unfortunate man stops another upon the highway, and robs him of a few shillings, he is deprived of life; but I have been robbed of thousands by the government; I have been deprived of every thing; I have been imprisoned for years; my wife, my family, have been ruined; and I am now called to answer for my life, because Mr. Perceval chose to patronize iniquity. What then must be the crime of government towards me? And yet it goes unpunished. Is there any comparison between the two cases? It is a mite to a mountain. I had no alternative but to sink into utter ruin, or to take the melancholy step which I have adopted. I was prompted to it by no *malice prepense*. I was incited by the hope of bringing into court my unfortunate case, without which I knew it never could be promulgated; and I was incited by the desire of afterwards returning to the bosom of my family with comfort and honour. I trust that this serious lesson will operate as a warning to all future ministers, and that they will henceforth do the thing that is right; for if the upper ranks of society are permitted to act wrong with impunity, the inferior ramifications will soon become wholly corrupted.

"Gentlemen, my life is in your hands, I rely confidently upon your justice; I know not what your verdict may be; but sooner than suffer what I have done for the last eight years, five hundred deaths would be preferable. If I am destined to sacrifice my life, I shall meet my doom with conscious tranquillity; I shall look forward to it as the weary traveller looks for the promised inn, where he may repose his wearied frame after enduring the pelting of the pitiless storm. Gentlemen, it will now remain between God and your consciences as to what your verdict will be."

The prisoner, when he had concluded, sat down in much agitation, and burst into tears; he asked for a glass of water, which was brought; and continued for some time in great perturbation of mind.

Sir James Mansfield then addressed the jury. He began by observing, that they were called upon to try an indictment against the prisoner at the bar, for the wilful murder of the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval; of a man distinguished for talents and private worth, and whose amiable and virtuous character none could estimate too highly. In forming their verdict, however, they were bound to lose sight of those circumstances, and to frame it entirely upon the evidence that had been adduced. They were to consider the case without any reference to the individual who had fallen; for the law protected the lives equally of the rich and the poor—of the great and the mean.

The Learned Judge then proceeded to recapitulate the whole evidence, after which he proceeded to state the defence of the prisoner. In that defence, he observed, he had brought forward what he suffered in Russia as a justification of what he had done; that he only sought for justice, and that he persuaded himself he had a right to avenge his cause in the way he did. A dreadful mode of reasoning; for if a man fancied that when he could not proceed in what he might consider as a just cause, he had a right to put the pre-

sumed author of his failure to death; by the same kind of argument every person presiding in a court of judicature might be assassinated, when he refused to grant the claims of any individual who sued there for justice. With regard to the act itself, it had been attempted to do away the criminality by the plea of the prisoner's insanity; but that plea was acknowledged by the law only under peculiar circumstances. If a man was so insane as not to be able to distinguish right from wrong, as to discriminate between the most wicked or the most virtuous deed, such a man would not be criminally responsible for his conduct. But it must be clearly made out that he was so completely void of reason as to be incapable of distinguishing right from wrong; that he did not know, for example, that murder was a crime either in the sight of God or man. No other sort of insanity can prevail as a general plea. There were, however, various kinds of madness. Lunacy, for example, in which a person was commonly afflicted with mental derangement only at particular periods; and if such persons committed any crime at the time when such derangement was on them, they stood excused; but if they were guilty of any crime when their disorder was not upon them, and when they were capable of judging between right and wrong, then, though it might be proved they were occasionally insane, that would be no justification of a crime committed at a time when their sanity was manifest. There was another species of insanity which displayed itself only upon the occurrence of some particular occasion, the person so afflicted being perfectly sane on all other occasions. But with regard to the insanity attempted to be urged in behalf of the prisoner, the witnesses had not described in what it consisted; they had only, he thought, given a very singular account, which proved nothing, if it was meant to prove that he was insane at the time he committed the crime for which he stood indicted.—[Here the Learned Judge recapitulated the evidence of the prisoner's witnesses.]—In all the evidence laid before them,

there was not one fact adduced which proved a disordered mind. They therefore had to consider—1st. Whether Mr. Perceval was really murdered in the manner stated in the indictment: 2dly. Whether he was so killed by the prisoner at the bar: and 3dly. Should they affirm the first two, whether he possessed a sufficient degree of understanding at the time, to know distinctly that shooting a man was a crime? If they had any doubts upon these points they would, of course, acquit the prisoner; but if they had none, they must then find him guilty.

The Jury withdrew for about ten minutes, when they returned to the box, and gave in a verdict of—*Guilty*.

The Recorder then addressed the prisoner in the following words:—

"John Bellingham, you have been convicted by a most attentive and merciful jury, of one of the most malicious crimes that human nature can perpetrate; a crime which has in all ages and in all nations, been held in the highest detestation. Odious and detestable, however, as it is in every case, it is in your's aggravated and heightened by many atrocious circumstances. The object of your blood-thirsty vengeance was possessed of every public and every private virtue. In destroying him, you robbed charity of one of its warmest patrons, religion of one of its firmest supporters, domestic life of one of its most endearing characters, and his country of one of its brightest ornaments. Every part of your iniquitous conduct is strongly impressed with every quality of atrocity. In the very sanctuary of the senate which he adorned, and as he was on the very point of fulfilling his duty there to his country, you sacrificed him to your infuriate and malignant revenge. To indulge in any conjectures as to your motives, would only lead me into the revolting details of wickedness that is unparalleled. The more the dreadful transaction is contemplated, the more the mind recoils from the horrid scene. Assassination is the most abhorred of human crimes. It renders bravery useless, and cowardice tri-

umphant. But the voice of God has declared, that whoso sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed; and publicly therefore you must expiate your crime. May your ignominious fate deter others from a similar atrocity! A very short time remains for you to supplicate the throne of mercy. Use it diligently, I implore you. I sincerely hope that the interval which has passed since the commission of your dreadful crime, has been passed in solemn endeavours to propitiate your offended God; and my most fervent wish is, that your prayers may find acceptance, through the merits of your Redeemer. It now only remains for me to pass the sentence of the law, which is, That you be taken, on Monday next, to a place of execution, there to be hung by the neck till you are dead, and your body delivered over to be anatomized; and may God have mercy on your soul!"

The awful sentence of the law was heard by the prisoner without any apparent emotion. He was immediately removed from the bar. He said, "My Lord," as if inclined to address the judge, but was informed by Mr. Newman, that it was not then a time for saying any thing. He stumbled on the declivity in the dock as he went out, but betrayed no agitation beyond what he had shewn at any other of the most peculiarly interesting periods of his trial. His face was a little flushed, and the only indication of feeling at all was in an almost imperceptible convulsive motion of the lip. His hair, which was closely cropped, was perfectly moist, either from the exertion of speaking in his defence, or from internal agitation, which he strove to conceal.

While the learned judge was summing up the evidence, Bellingham, who certainly did not seem to expect the issue of the trial to be what it was, mentioned to his solicitor to be sure not to let slip the opportunity of acquainting his wife by that night's post, that he had been acquitted.

The following is the copy of the letter to the magistrates of Bow Street, alluded to by him in his defence:

"SIRS,

"I much regret its being my lot to have to apply to your worships under most peculiar and novel circumstances. For the particulars of the case, I refer to the enclosed letter from Mr. Secretary Ryder, the notification from Mr. Perceval, and my petition to Parliament, together with the printed papers herewith. The affair requires no farther remark, than that I consider his Majesty's government to have completely endeavoured to close the door of justice, in declining to have, or even to permit my grievances to be brought before parliament for redress, which privilege is the birthright of every individual. The purport of the present is, therefore, once more, to solicit his Majesty's ministers, through your medium, to let what is right and proper be done in my instance, which is all I require. Should this reasonable request be finally denied, I shall then feel justified in executing justice myself, in which case I shall be ready to argue the merits of so reluctant a measure with his Majesty's attorney-general, wherever and whenever I may be called upon so to do. In the hopes of averting so abhorrent, but compulsive an alternative,

I have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

"JOHN BELLINGHAM."

"*No.* 9, *New Millman Street,*

"March 23, 1812."

After his condemnation, this infatuated man still continued to evince the same firmness and composure as he had exhibited from the moment of committing the fatal crime; and to the very last hour of his life he seemed to be thoroughly impressed with the notion, that the horrid step which he had taken was perfectly justifiable.

The following is a literal copy of a letter to his wife, which he wrote in the night preceding his execution:

"My Blessed Mary,

"It rejoiced me beyond measure to hear you are likely to be well provided for. I am sure the public at large will participate in, and mitigate your sorrows. I assure you, my love, my sincerest endeavours have ever been directed to your welfare. As we shall not meet any more in this world, I sincerely hope we shall do so in the world to come.

"My blessing to the boys, with kind remembrance to Miss Stevens, for whom I have the greatest regard, in consequence of her uniform affection for them. With the purest of intentions it has always been my misfortune to be thwarted, misrepresented, and ill-used in life; but, however, we feel a happy prospect of compensation, in a speedy translation to life eternal. It is not impossible to be more calm and placid than I feel, and nine hours more will waft me to those happy shores where bliss is without alloy.

"Your ever affectionate,

"JOHN BELLINGHAM."

"*Sunday night*, 11 *o'clock*."

"Dr. Ford will forward you my watch, prayer-book, with a guinea and note. Once more, God be with you, my sweet Mary. The public sympathise much for me, but I have been called upon to play an anxious card in life."

Nothing, perhaps, can mark more strongly the frightful distortion of his mind than the following note, written by him the same night:

"*Twelve o'clock*.

"I lost my suit, solely through the improper conduct of my attorney and counsel, Mr. Alley, in not bringing my witnesses forward, (of which there were more than twenty,) in consequence, the judge took advantage of the circumstance, and I went of [on] the defence without having brought forward a single friend, otherwise I must inevitably have been acquitted.

"JOHN BELLINGHAM."

About six o'clock on Monday morning Bellingham rose, dressed himself with great composure, and read for half an hour in the prayer book. Dr. Ford, the ordinary of Newgate, being then announced, the prisoner shook him most cordially by the hand, and left his cell for the room allotted for the condemned criminals. He repeated the declaration which he had frequently before made, that his mind was perfectly calm and composed, and that he was prepared to meet his fate with resignation. After a few minutes spent in prayer, the sacrament was administered: during the whole of which ceremony he seemed to be deeply impressed with the great truths of the Christian religion, and repeatedly uttered some pious ejaculations. After this religious ceremony was ended, and both he and Dr. Ford had prayed fervently, the prisoner was informed that the sheriffs were ready. He answered in a firm tone, "I am perfectly ready also." The sheriffs and under-sheriffs, and the gentlemen who had been admitted as their friends into the prison, then proceeded to the press-yard, and immediately after the prisoner was brought out. He descended with a firm and intrepid step, and looking up, observed with great coolness, "Ah! it rains heavily!" He then, by desire of one of the turnkeys, placed his foot firmly upon an anvil, in order to have his irons struck off, which were uncommonly heavy.

While this was doing he several times eyed the noblemen and gentlemen who were standing round, with great steadiness, and something like a dignified air. No emotions of fear or compunction were visible. After he was liberated from his fetters, he returned quickly into the room, when most of the spectators in the press-yard retired into another adjoining, at the request of the Lord Mayor, who, with the sheriffs and five or six other persons remained.

Mr. Sheriff Birch then addressed Bellingham in a very appropriate manner upon his awful situation, and after some previous remarks applicable to it, said, "The public mind,

Mr. Bellingham, requires to be satisfied upon a most important point, whether any other person was in any degree connected with you in this dreadful deed, and whether it was perpetrated on any public ground?" Bellingham, who stood very firmly, and with an unaltered countenance, attentively and respectfully listened to what was said, replied in a firm tone of voice, "Certainly not."

Sheriff Heygate, "Then it was your own affair—it was from personal resentment." Bellingham appeared hurt at the latter expression; and after repeating the words, "personal resentment," with an indignant, or rather dignified tone, said: "I bore no resentment to Mr. Perceval, as a man—and as a man I am sorry for his fate. I was referred from minister to minister, from office to office, and at length refused redress for my grievances. It was my own sufferings that caused the melancholy event, and I hope it will be a warning to future ministers to attend to the applications and prayers of those who suffer by oppression. Had my petition been brought into parliament, this catastrophe would not have happened. I am sorry for the sufferings I have caused to Mr. Perceval's family and friends."

Mr. Sheriff Heygate, "It would be right they should know you feel so much regret."

Bellingham, "You may communicate it—I wish them to know it."

Sheriff Heygate, "I hope you feel deep contrition for the deed."

Upon this the prisoner (assuming an attitude of considerable dignity,) said, "I hope, Sir, I feel as a man ought to do."

Sheriff Heygate, "You know, that to take away the life of a man unlawfully is a heinous crime."

Bellingham, "The Scriptures, you know, Sir, say that."

Sheriff Heygate, "I hope you have made your peace with God, and that by repentance you will meet the Almighty with a pure soul."

Bellingham, "No one can presume to do that, Sir. No

mortal can be pure in his sight; only our Saviour went from this world into his presence with a pure spirit."

Here he seemed desirous of quitting the room to meet his fate; and turning to the sheriffs, with a mild but firm tone, said, "Gentlemen, I am quite ready." The executioners then proceeded to bind his hands and pinion his arms, during which he turned to one of them and said, "Do every thing properly, that I may not suffer more than necessary." To which the man answered, he would take care to do so.

One of the attendants then proceeded to fasten his wrists together; he turned up the sleeves of his coat, and clasping his hands together, presented them to the man who held the cord, and said, "So?" When they were fastened, he desired his attendant to pull down his sleeves so as to cover the cord. The officer then proceeded to secure his arms by a rope behind him; when the man had finished, he moved his hands upwards, as if to ascertain whether he could reach his neck, and asked whether he thought his arms were sufficiently fastened, saying, that he might possibly struggle, and that he wished to be so secured as to prevent any inconvenience arising from it, and requested that the rope might be tightened a little, which was accordingly done. The executioner then loosened his cravat to expedite the final removal of it when he should reach the scaffold, the cause of which being explained, he said, "Certainly do so, it is perfectly right."

Throughout this awful and most impressive scene, his deportment was calm, manly, and even at times dignified; and had he perished for almost any other crime, he would have justly excited the pity and respect, if not the admiration, of every one who beheld this extraordinary close of his wretched career.

He was then conducted through the press-yard and the prison to the fatal spot. He walked very firmly, and appeared even more composed than many of the persons who were present at this awful scene.

On reaching the scaffold he mounted the steps with the utmost celerity; his countenance bespoke a mind unmoved and undismayed; he carried himself perfectly erect; his tread was bold and firm; nothing like an indication of trembling, faltering, or irresolution, appeared. He seemed, indeed, that stoic for whom life had no attraction, death no terrors. Having taken his station, the executioner instantly pulled the cap over his face. The ordinary, Dr. Ford, then took off the criminal's neckcloth, and proceeded to tie it over his eyes; and here that calmness and presence of mind which he displayed throughout the whole of this unhappy business, appeared not to have forsaken him. The pad being enclosed in the neckcloth, he motioned that it should be taken out, which was accordingly done, and the handkerchief was then bound round his head. The executioner having fastened the rope, Dr. Ford prayed for a minute or two with the malefactor, who was then launched into eternity. After hanging the prescribed time, the body was cut down, and immediately conveyed to the dissecting room of Sir William Blizard, in Well Court, Little Britain. In consequence of the numerous applications for a view of the body, and the confined state of the place in which it was deposited, Sir William Blizard refused, as is customary in cases of persons executed for murder, to expose it for public inspection.

It is a singular fact, that after his body was opened, it was noticed that his heart continued to perform its functions; or, in other words, to be alive for four hours after he was laid open. The expanding and contracting powers continued perceptible till one o'clock in the day; a proof of the steady undismayed character which he preserved to the last gasp. It is said of some men, that the heart dies within them; but here the energies remained when life was extinct.

THE END OF VOLUME FOUR.

INDEX

TO THE FOURTH VOLUME.

A PAGE

ADAMS, Phineas, his astonishing obstinacy - - - 173
Agar, Captain, his pedestrian performances - - - - - 216
Aix, in Provence, petrified human bodies discovered near that city - - - - - - 32
Animals, description of a curious species generated in the human body - - - - - 37
Anning, Mary, her remarkable case of suspended animation 161
Arms, astonishing dexterity of persons born without them - 366
Arnold, Mr. curious watch constructed by him - - - - 100

B

Baily, Mr. Francis, his account of Zerah Colburn - - - - 111
Barclay, Captain, narrative of his life and extraordinary pedestrian performances - - 197
Bartholinus, his description of a remarkable human monster - - - - - - - - - 239
———, his account of the dexterity of a woman born without arms - - - - - 368
Bartley, Robert, a celebrated pedestrian - - - - - - 210
Bateman, Mary, her life, impositions, trial, and execution 260
Batty, John, his extraordinary pedestrian performance - - 212
Bell, Thomas, the Cambridge giant, account of him - - 403
Bellingham, John, his life, trial, and execution - - - - - 406
Bells, description of some remarkably large ones - - 302
—— peals of, in England - 309
Bergemoletto, account of the fall of a vast mass of snow at that place, and the extraordinary preservation of three persons who were buried under it - - - - - - - - 154
Blight, Mr. trial of Richard Patch for his murder - - - 46
Boiling fountains in Iceland, description of them - - - 130
——————— St. Michael, one of the Azores - - - - 144
——— pit near Glasgow - - 145
Boulogne, petrifying nature of the sea-water near that town 30

PAGE

Bourdeaux, shower of yellow dust there - - - - - - - 195
Broad-sword exercise, performance of it with both hands at once - - - - - - - - - 368
Buchanan, human monster described by him - - - - 238
Bull, petrifaction of one in a coal-pit - - - - - - - - 31
Bullock, felled by a man's fist 364
Butcher's tray, the Thames crossed by a man in one - - - 364
Buxton, Jedediah, his wonderful calculations - - - - 119

C

Calculation, particulars of persons remarkable for their talents in that way - - 111—130
Calverley Lodge, singular storm near that place - - - - 365
Camerarius, his description of persons born without arms - 367
Canning, Mr. his pedestrian performance - - - - - - 213
Cape Breton, shipwreck of a brigantine on the coast of that island, and distresses of the crew - - - - - - - - - 372
Capon, Mr. account of his swallowing a crown-piece - - 97
Carey, William, ossification of his tendons and muscles - - 38
Carr, a waterman, fidelity of his dog - - - - - - - - - 364
Chantilly, natural curiosities preserved in the museum there - - - - - - - - - 231
Charles I. discovery of his body at Windsor - - - - - 190
Charterhouse, remains of a gigantic skeleton discovered there - - - - - - - - 405
China, large bells in that country - - - - - - - - - 303
Cock with four legs, description of - - - - - - - - - 230
Colburn, Zerah, a child remarkable for his uncommon powers of calculation, account of him 111
Colloredo, Lazarus, description of his extraordinary conformation - - - - - - - - 239
Crab, account of a man drowned by one - - - - - - - 103
Cross, William, his walking-match with Rainer - - - 217

D PAGE
D'Eon, Chevalier, memoirs of - 1
Derwentwater, floating island in it 188
Disease, account of some remarkable circumstances attending it in the human body 37
Dog, fidelity of one - - - - 364
Domery, Charles, particulars respecting his uncommon appetite - - - - - - - - 104
Dowler, Mr. his pedestrian performance - - - - - - 214
Downes, Mr. his pedestrian performances - - - - - - 215
Downing, John, extraordinary case of mortification in his family - - - - - - - 40
Dust, shower of, in Zetland - 194
——— at Bourdeaux 195
E
Edge, Joseph, his extraordinary pedestrian performance - - 211
Egland, James Sharpe, the flying pieman, account of him - 354
Eller, Dr. human monster described by him - - - - 240
Eustace, Mr. his pedestrian performances - - - - - - 211
Ewes and Lambs, singular wager respecting the sorting of them 365
F
Fairman, Lieut. his pedestrian performances - - - - - 216
Fullwell Hills, Durham, gigantic remains discovered there 406
G
Geysers, or boiling fountains in Iceland, description of them 130
Giants, particulars respecting several - - - - - - - - - 403
Glanville, his extraordinary pedestrian performance - - 212
Goldham, Mr., his astonishing broad-sword and equestrian performances - - - - - 363
Groats, Lieutenant, his pedestrian performance - - - - 214
H
Halford, Sir H., Bart, his account of the discovery of the body of Charles I. - - - - - 190
Halifax, Lieutenant, his extraordinary pedestrian performance 213
Hall, John, drowned by a crab 103
Hall, Mr., match made by him - 362
Hammerton, Hester, the female sexton, account of her - - 311
Hawtin, Miss, born without arms, her ingenious performances - 366
Henry, Rev. Wm., his account of a case of ossification of the the tendons and muscles - - 38
Hooker, Mr., his description of the Geysers in Iceland - - 141
Horses, extraordinary performances of several - - - - 361
Howe, Captain, his pedestrian performances - - - - - 214
Hudson, Kate, her remarkable case - - - - - - - - - 177
I
Island, description of a floating one, in Derwentwater - - - 188
Islington Church, description of the wicker-work contrived for repairing it - - - - - - 101
J
Jackett, Wm., his singular will 268
K
Keckerman, his account of a scholar without fingers and toes - 370
Kingston, Wm., born without arms, his surprising dexterity 370
Kirk Ireton, remarkable tornado at that place - - - - - - 365
L
Leixlip, gigantic coffin discovered there - - - - - - - - 406
Lepton, John, his swift journey from London to York - - -
Lithgow, his description of an extraordinary human monster 236
Lycosthenes, remarkable monster described by him - - - 237
M
Mackenzie, Sir G. S., Bart., description of the boiling fountains in Iceland - - - - - 130
Macleod, Janet, her extraordinary abstinence from food - 348
M'Donald, Ames, his gigantic stature and longevity - - - 404
M'Garth, Cornelius, a giant, account of him - - - - - 404
M'Gregor fells a bullock with his fist - - - - - - - - - 364
Mann, Rev. Mr., his account of the last moments of Richard Patch - - - - - - - 98
Mealing, Mr., his pedestrian performance - - - - - - 213
Mermaids, accounts of them, with attestations tending to prove the existence of such animals - - - - - - - 244
M'Isaac, John, his deposition respecting a mermaid - - - 248
Moises, Dr., his letter concerning Kate Hudson - - - - - 178
Monsters, description of some 230
Moore, Ann, the fasting woman, account of her impostnre - 330

PAGE

Mortification, extraordinary case of, in a family in Suffolk, 40. In Richard Parsons, of Gloucestershire - - - - - - - 42
Moscow, description of the great bell of that city - - - - 302
Musgrave, Dr., his address to the freeholders of Devonshire - 8

N

Negro calculator, anecdote of one - - - - - - - - - - 129
North, Francis, born without arms. 370

O

Old Ford, gigantic skeleton discovered there - - - - - - 406
Ossification of the tendons and muscles of the human body - 38

P

Parey, Ambrose, monsters described by him - - - - - - 232
Parsons, Richard, extraordinary case of mortification - - - 42
Patch, Richard, his life and trial 44
Pedestrian performances, list of the most celebrated - - - 220
Pedestrians, account of celebrated ones - - - - - - - - - 197
Pennington, Thomas, born without arms and legs - - - - 370
Petrifaction, remarkable instances of - - - - - - - - - - 29
Phenomena, singular, observed in a mine - - - - - - - - 43
Platerus, his account of a woman born without arms - - - - 368
Podgers, Mr., his pedestrian performance - - - - - - - 214
Poney, extraordinary race of one against a mail-coach - - - 360
Powell, Foster, his pedestrian performances - - - - - - 210
Prenties, S. W., his shipwreck and distresses - - - - - 372

R

Rain, damage done by its freezing as it fell - - - - - - 196
Rainer, Edward, his walking-match with William Cross - 217
Reed, a noted pedestrian, his performances - - - - - - 210
Reed, Mr., singular wager won by him - - - - - - - - 365
Reid, General, account of him - 84
Rimmington, Mr., his pedestrian performance - - - - - - 213
Roccia, Joseph, wonderful preservation of his family, who were buried under a prodigious mass of snow - - - - 154
Rouen, particulars respecting a great bell there - - - - - 308
Rush, Dr., his report respecting the extraordinary powers of calculation of a negro - - - 129

S

St. Alban's, gigantic remains discovered there - - - - - 405
St. Lawrence brigantine, shipwreck, and distresses of her crew - - - - - - - - - 372
St. Michael, one of the Azores, boiling fountains there - - 144
Savager, Thomas, his extraordinary pedestrian performance 212
Scaliger, his account of a man born without arms - - - - 369
Schweicker, Thomas, born without arms, his extraordinary performances - - - - - - 367
Sear, John, born without arms, his dexterity - - - - - - 370
Simons, John, born without arms, his dexterity - - - - - - 370
Snow, extraordinary preservation of persons buried under it 146—161
Souffrier Mountain, St. Vincent's, description of a remarkable volcanic eruption - - - - 313
Spearing, Lieut. George, his remarkable deliverance from a coal-pit - - - - - - - - 163
Speed, extraordinary, of horses 361
Stevens, Mr., his extraordinary pedestrian performance - - 214
Storm, a singular one - - - - 365
Stow, his account of a Dutchman without arms - - - - - - 370
Stow, John Aylett, extract from his will - - - - - - - - 250

T

Thames, the, crossed by a man in a butcher's tray - - - 364
Thomas, Mary, her extraordinary abstinence from food - 346
Thornhill, T. Esq. singular effects of a storm on his estate - - 365
Thulnby, Magdalen Rodolpha, born without arms, her dexterity - - - - - - - - - 368
Tongue, extraordinary purposes to which that member was applied by a woman - - - 369
Tornado, a remarkable one - 365
Toupin, J, his description of a mermaid - - - - - - - 354
Trajan's bridge over the Danube, petrifaction of the pillars which support it - - - - - - 30
Tregoney, in Cornwall, gigantic remains discovered there - 405
Tulpius, his account of the extra-

PAGE

ordinary actions performed by a woman with her tongue - 369

V

Valobra, George, the creeping pedestrian, account of him - 256
Ventriloquism, error of a sexton occasioned by it - - - 363
Villingaims, Pictorius, his account of a Spaniard born without arms - - - - - - 361

W

Wanley, monsters described by him - - - - - - - - - 236
———, remarks on the compensations of Providence - 365
Wardell, Mr. extraordinary performance of his poney - - 300
Watch, a curious one - - - 100
Webster, Lieut. his wonderful equestrian performance - - 361
Wells, Mr. match made by him 362
West, Matthew, his extraordinary resolution and strength 103
Whiston, Andrew, a remarkable instance of personal deformity 171
Whitehead, Levi, a celebrated runner - - - - - - - 210
Will, discovery of one after a concealment of twenty-one years - - - - - 99
Wills, singular - - - - - 258
Wollaston, Dr. his account of an extraordinary case of mortification in a family in Suffolk 40
Woburn Abbey, damage done there by rain freezing as it fell
Woodcock, Elizabeth, her remarkable deliverance - - 146

Y

Yardley, Mr. his pedestrian performance - - - - - - 214

Z

Zetland, account of a shower of black dust which fell in that island - - - 194

LIST OF PLATES IN VOLS. I. II. III. and IV.

VOL. I.

PAGE

Frontispiece to face the Title
Sir John Dinely - - 1
George Forster - - 34
Samuel Mathews - - 53
Great Tun of Heidelberg - - - - - 84
John Richards - - - 110
Ann Siggs - - - - 145
Thomas Topham - - 157
Egyptian Gun - - - 173
Martin Van Butchell 191
Andrew Borde - - 230
Sir Rich. Whittington 253
John Joseph Merlin - 274
John Hatfield - - - 309
Samuel Horsey - - 321
Mary Honeywood - 357
Eliz. Canning - - - 364
Mary Squires - - - 381
Sir William Staines 413
Nathaniel Bentley - 445
Tartarian Lamb - - 471

VOL. II.

Frontispiece to face the Title
Mathew Buchinger - 1
Miss De Verdion - - 48
The Hammersmith Ghost - - - - - 65
Col. Thomas Blood - 105
Cheapside Cross - - 129
Mother Shipton - - 145
Mary Anne Talbot, as a Sailor - - - - 160
Ditto in her Female Dress - - - - - 188
The Whinfield Oak - 230
Thomas Asellis - - 236
Fair on the Thames - 283
Clock of Strasburg - 312
O'Brien, the Irish Giant - - - - 332
James Burns - - - 369
John Metcalf - - - 384
Daniel Lambert - - 409
Hannah Snell - - - 438
William Powell - - 468

VOL. III.

Frontispiece to face the Title
Jeremiah Crawford - - - 9
Joseph Clippur, Esq. - 35
The Young Roscius - 60
Thomas Inchfield - 89
George Romondo - - 115
Lord Camelford - - 140
Daniel Dancer, Esq. - 169
George Morland - - 189
Thomas Roberts - - 216
Lord George Gordon - 225
John Elwes, Esq. - - 258
The Savage of Aveyron 280
Brother John and I, the polite Grocers - - 305
Louisa, or the Lady of the Hay-stack - - 323
Peggy Jones - - - 357
Lord Rokeby - - - 379
View of Fairlop Oak - 405

VOL. IV.

Frontispiece to face the Title
Chevalier D'Eon - - 1
General John Reid - 34
Richard Patch - - - 41
Wicker-work on Islington Church - - 101
Zerah Colburn - - - 111
Jedediah Buxton - - 119
Elizabeth Woodcock - 149
Andrew Whiston - - 171
Captain Barclay - - 191
Cock with four legs - 240
George Valobra - - 256
Great Bell of Moscow 302
Hester Hammerton - 311
Ann Moore - - - - 330
James Sharpe Egland 351
Miss Hawtin - - - - 366
Thomas Bell, the Cambridge Giant - - - 403
John Bellingham - - 406

J. G. BARNARD, SKINNER-STREET, LONDON.

VV